THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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Shanghai mail advices of the 23rd of May were received in London on the 27th of June.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, MONDAY, JULY 4, 1898.

THE RUSSIAN SPECTRE.

THE question of the day for the British Government and Parliament is: Is the trade of China worth fighting for? The British nation, at a great expense of blood and treasure, threw China open to the trade of the world, and in fair and open competition succeeded in keeping the greater part of that trade in her own hands. Some of her rivals, unable to compete with her on equal terms, have decided to try and oust her altogether from China. Whether she has lost North China altogether now is just trembling in the balance; and what reason is there to suppose that when our rivals see how successful Russia has been in taking advantage of the paralysis that has attacked our Foreign Office, they will not follow Russia's lead, or join with Russia in extending the latter's sphere of influence over the whole of the Chinese empire?

We have been hitherto—and the China Association with us—as the voice of one crying in the wilderness. We do not mean to go back now to the Secret Treaty between Russia and China and the Cassini Convention, though much mischief would have been averted if the British Minister and the Foreign Office had not poohpoohed those revelations when we made them. But we may refer to the series of warnings we have published within the last few months. On the 28th of March we wrote: "If Russia is allowed to construct the proposed railways in Manchuria, China cannot possibly observe her existing treaties with other Powers; and unless Great Britain intervenes to prevent North China falling entirely under the domination of Russia, British influence and prestige here will be annihilated." On the 1st of April we exposed the Russian designs in Manchuria, and declared that not only was Russia determined not to allow China to build a railway to Newchwang with the aid of English engineers, but that she was really behind the Belgian syndicate, and the railway from Peking to Hankow was to be in fact a Russian one; and we said: "We comfort ourselves with the conviction that if the worst comes to the worst, and we find it impossible to stop the partition of China, we shall compensate ourselves with the Yangtze Valley; but has our Government thought how the Yangtze Valley is to be defended with all North China in the hands of Russia and Germany, and Russia with a wedge driven right down to Hankow?" To-day we can add to this that there is a French explorer at the present moment in Szechuan supported by an armed force, and another French explorer in Hunan similarly supported; how much Yangtze Valley is going to be left to us in, say, five years' time?

On the 16th of April we wrote: "The Russians have now consented to allow Chinese to build their own line in their own territory to Moukden. Russia retains, indeed, in her own hands the more important line, that from Petuné to Port Arthur; but it is something gained that China is allowed to employ English engineers and English capital in Manchuria at all, a course which Russia had previously forbidden her to adopt." Russia has thought better—or worse—of this. As soon as the Hongkong Bank had signed the contract with the Chinese Railway Administration for the loan of the money to build the railway from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang, the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* protested formally against it. It is represented by Russian apologists that M. Pavloff did not object to the Hongkong Bank making the loan, but to the interference with Russia's sphere of influence; but as matter of strict fact he objected in so many words to the Chinese making the loan with the Hongkong Bank; if they had gone to the Russo-Chinese Bank it would, of course, have been all right.

Lord Salisbury has thrown to the winds all that he allowed his colleagues in his Cabinet to fool the British public with about keeping the Open Door even at the risk of war, maintaining our treaty rights, equality of opportunities, etc., etc. He must have

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inspired the article headed "Mr. Chamberlain and Russia" in the *Spectator* of the 21st of May. "But let us take the worst and admit that Russia could, and would, take all China. Are we so certain that our trade would be so greatly injured? We do a pretty good trade as it is with the Black Sea and the Baltic. Ought we to assume that Russia would be able, or would try to close the door of China?" etc., etc. What flapdoodle this is. Why, already Russia is trying to close the door in our faces. Factories are now being run up in Russia with feverish haste to produce the goods that we now sell to China, and the moment they are ready to send forward their products Russia will protect them by differential tariffs. Russia is not so unpractical as only to want so many more thousands of square miles of territory, and so many more millions of Mongolian subjects. She wants China's trade. Siberia is a dead loss, which China is to make good to Russia, and if our extrusion is necessary to enable Russia to get the profits of China's trade, out we are to go. That is the plain statement of the case, which we want our manufacturers and Chambers of Commerce to clearly understand. We come back to the question with which we began: Is the trade of China worth our retaining, even at the cost of war? Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said not long ago that it is; Lord Salisbury seems to say it is not. What does the British public say?

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 27th of May arrived here on the 28th ult. by the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Ballaarat*.

The German mail of the 30th of May arrived here on the 2nd inst. by the N.D.L. Co.'s steamer *Bayern*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe by the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Verona*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST SANTIAGO.

London, 27th June.

A thousand American dismounted cavalry attacked two thousand Spaniards in the bush five miles from Santiago, and drove the Spaniards into the city. The American loss was thirteen killed and fifty wounded, including six officers.

The American main body is constantly advancing, and though greatly fatigued by the heat and forced marches is now eight miles from Santiago.

THE SPANISH ACCOUNT.

A Spanish official despatch states that the Americans attacked the Spanish Camp but were repulsed and pursued.

The Spanish loss was seven killed and twenty-seven wounded, including three officers.

THE NEWS AT MADRID.

The news of the American landing has excited great feeling in Madrid.

Señor Sagasta has prorogued the Cortes owing to the heated and futile nature of the debates in that body.

ADMIRAL CAMARA IS COMING.

The Spanish Fleet has been sighted off Port Said.

THE CABINET CRISIS AT PARIS.

M. Peytral has failed to form a French Ministry, and President Faure has now summoned M. Brisson.

[M. Brisson is a Radical and was President of the last Chamber.—Ed. *N.-C. Daily News.*]

London, 28th June.

A CHECK TO ADMIRAL CAMARA.

Admiral Camara's squadron consists of two ironclads, two cruisers, three torpedo boats, and five transports with four thousand troops.

The Egyptian Government has refused to allow the squadron to coal at Port Said, so pending further orders it remains there.

THE REPORT THAT HE IS TO BE PURSUED.

According to the *New York Herald* the U.S. Government is sending the Flying Squadron under Commodore Schley to bombard the Spanish ports and pursue Admiral Camara. The Spaniards are actively preparing for defence.

London, 29th June.

THE THIRD U.S. EXPEDITION TO MANILA.

Four transports with the third expedition consisting of four thousand troops have left San Francisco for Manila.

ADMIRAL CAMARA'S PROGRESS.

Admiral Camara has been ordered to proceed to Suez.

It is reported that it has been arranged for colliers to meet the squadron in the Red Sea and elsewhere.

THE U.S. PURSUING SQUADRON.

Commodore Watson is appointed to command the U.S. squadron that is going to Spain. It consists of three ironclads, four cruisers, and three colliers.

[Commodore John C. Watson was lately Governor of the Naval Home, Philadelphia. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1856, from Kentucky, was appointed Lieutenant in July, 1862, and was Flag-Lieutenant to Admiral Farragut.—Ed. *N.-C. Daily News.*]

A FRENCH CABINET AT LAST.

M. Brisson has completed his Cabinet; M. Brisson to be Premier and Minister of the Interior, M. Cavaignac Minister of War, M. Delcasse Minister for Foreign Affairs, and M. Peytral Minister of Finance.

London, 30th June.

THE INVESTMENT OF SANTIAGO.

It is reported in New York that the Americans have cut the water-mains supplying Santiago.

THE CONQUEST OF THE PHILIPPINES.

Major-General Wesley Merritt left San Francisco yesterday and is hurrying to Manila.

Upon his arrival he will issue a proclamation announcing the establishment of a provisional Government.

THE BLOCKADE OF CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

President McKinley has proclaimed the extension of the blockade to the whole southern coast of Cuba, and also San Juan in Porto Rico.

THE INLAND WATERS REGULATIONS.

The Right Hon. G. N. Curzon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has stated that the Government will insist on the Chinese Government revising the regulations for the navigation of Chinese inland waters in a satisfactory sense.

London, 1st July.

THE CABINET CRISIS AT ROME.

General Pelloux has formed an Italian Cabinet.

Admiral Canevaro is Minister for Foreign Affairs, and General di San Marzano Minister of War.

[General Pelloux was Minister of War in the Marquis de Rudini's 1896 Cabinet.—Ed. *N.-C. Daily News.*]

THE SANTIAGO EXPEDITION.

General Shafter telegraphs that 8,000 Spaniards with a quantity of supplies are advancing on Santiago. He has decided to attack before they arrive without waiting for his own reinforcements.

THE U.S. EUROPEAN SQUADRON.

The departure of Commodore Watson's squadron for Spain is likely to be delayed, as his ships are not yet prepared for the voyage.

London, 2nd July.

A P. & O. STEAMER BURNT. SHOCKING FATALITY.

The P. & O. steamer *Ganges*, lying in Bombay harbour, took fire yesterday and was completely destroyed. The stewardess was burnt to death in her cabin.

ADMIRAL CAMARA IN NO HURRY.

Admiral Camara began coaling at Port Said from colliers. The Egyptian Government requested him to desist and leave immediately. Admiral Camara thereupon declared that his vessels required repair, and began discharging coal and material for that purpose.

THE REINFORCEMENTS FOR MANILA.

Altogether 470 officers and 10,464 men are on their way to Manila.

DOUBTS AS TO GERMAN DESIGNS.

Notwithstanding German official assurances, the suspicion and irritation

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on the part of the United States as to German designs on the Philippines are increasing.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hongkong, 27th June.

LATEST NEWS FROM MANILA.

General Monet with 1,200 Spaniards being besieged by the insurgents at San Fernando tried to break through their lines. The General was killed and 1,000 of his men surrendered.

The Captain-General Augustine has offered a reward of $2,500 for the head of General Aguinaldo.

The insurgents have now 7,000 men armed with modern weapons, and hope to have 10,000 in a few days.

Hongkong, 1st July.

The American troops had not arrived at Manila on the 28th ultimo.

The rebels have captured a ship at Tayabas, with several hundred Spanish troops.

The insurgents possess three small steamers and several good launches. Skirmishing continues.

General Aguinaldo, in reference to the establishment of a Republic, has stated that he trusts the Americans and believes they will support him, and that the Philippinos will obtain and hold their full rights.

Hongkong, 4th July.

ARRIVAL OF U. S. TROOPS FROM SAN FRANCISCO AT MANILA.
CAPTURE OF THE CAROLINES AND THE LADRONES.

The first steamer with U. S. troops from San Francisco arrived at Manila on Thursday. There was to be no movement until the second steamer arrived.

The Carolines and Ladrones have been captured by the U. S. S. *Charleston* on her way to Manila, and the American flag has been hoisted on the principal islands in both groups.

Entering the harbour of Guam, in the Ladrones, the *Charleston* fired seven shots at the forts. The Governor thought it was a salute, and sent word that he could not reply, as he had no powder. He was informed that he was a prisoner of war, and protested, alleging that he was not aware that there had been any declaration of war. An American resident was appointed temporary Governor.

The Spanish gunboat *Leyte* was captured on the 29th ult. with 183 Spanish troops on board, driven out of Pampangas River by the rebels.

It was expected that the American flag would be hoisted over Manila on the Fourth of July.

THE Director of Sicawei Observatory reports: Monday, 27th June, 10 a.m. —*State of the atmosphere on the 26th.* —High pressures between China and Japan. The monsoon prevails over the N. coast but is interrupted in the S. Overcast but rather fine weather. *State on the morning of the 27th.*—Barometer above the average. At 8 a.m. fog sets in. —*Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Warm and rather fine weather. Moderate monsoon over the N. coast, and very variable winds in the S. Thunderstorms at places. —Tuesday, 28th June, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 27th.*—Maximum of barometric pressure at Japan. Fog and a little drizzle at Shanghai. Changeable and light breezes everywhere. *State on the morning of the 28th.*—The weather improves. Barometer on the decline. Return of the monsoon. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.* —Fine and warm weather. Moderate to fresh monsoon along the entire coast. Strong breezes from the east quadrant between China and Japan. Thunderstorms in places.—Wednesday, 29th June, 10 a.m. —*State of the atmosphere on the 28th.*—High pressures over Japan and barometer falling over China. Fine and warm weather. Very variable winds along the coast.— *State on the morning of the 29th.*—Fine weather. The barometer is rising. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Still warm and fine weather, but liable to showers. Variable winds in the S.; fresh to strong monsoon over the N. coast, as well as between China and Japan.—Thursday, 30th June, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 29th.*— Barometer high in Japan and rising at Shanghai. Very variable winds over the whole coast. Fine and warm weather.— *State on the morning of the 30th.*—The weather is overcast and the monsoon freshens at Shanghai. Barometer in the neighbourhood of the average. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Weather still liable to passing showers. Fresh monsoon over the N. coast, and moderate breezes from the N. quadrant in the S.—Friday, 1st July, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 30th.*—A narrow depression is felt to the S. of Hongkong advancing towards the coast of China. Warm and rather fine weather, with a few showers in the afternoon.—*State on the morning of the 1st.*—Fine, warm and calm weather.—The pressure is near the average. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Rather fine and warm weather, and return of the monsoon along the entire coast.—Saturday, 2nd July, 10 a.m. —*State of the atmosphere on the 1st.*—High pressures over Central Japan and the Loochoo Islands. The depression that passed S. of Hongkong is dispersing over China. Fine and warm weather.—*State on the morning of the 2nd.*—Fine, calm and warm weather. The barometer reaches the normal pressure. Sunday, 3rd July, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 2nd.*—A rather deep minimum descends from Saghalien over the E. of Japan where it causes strong S.W. winds. Very variable breezes over the coast of China. Great heat at Shanghai.—*State on the morning of the 3rd.*—The weather becomes overcast and the S. breeze freshens. Pressure below the average. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Very warm weather liable to showers. Moderate to fresh monsoon along the whole coast.

THE average minimum of the thermometer in the Settlement in June was 69°.42, the average maximum 81°.64, and the mean 75°.53, against 68°.88, 81°.59, and 75°.23, respectively, in June, 1897. The rainfall in June was 2.14 inches, and rain fell measurably on 8 days, against 0.66 inch and 5 days in June, 1897, and an average of 6.95 inches and 13½ days for the sixteen years 1882-1897.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1898.		Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
June	27	71°.4	79°.7	0.06
,,	28	76°.5	90°.3	.....
,,	29	75°.0	90°.1	.....
,,	30	75°.0	84°.1	.....
July	1	76°.0	87°.9	.....
,,	2	77°.8	94°.0	.....
,,	3	80°.8	96°.4	.....

1897.		Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
June	27	70°.0	76°.0	.....
,,	28	67°.3	78°.1	.....
,,	29	68°.9	81°.0	.....
,,	30	69°.0	79°.0	.....
July	1	67°.6	82°.7	.....
,,	2	66°.8	81°.3	.....
,,	3	67°.6	80°.2	.....

IT is perfectly true that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation having settled a loan to the Imperial Chinese Railways for the construction of the intended line from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang, the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* sent to the Tsungli Yamên a formal written protest against it. Does Lord Salisbury propose to sit down quietly and allow the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* to annul a contract between an English Bank and a Chinese Government Department?

THE Bank of Indo-China opened its Shanghai branch formally on the 1st inst., though Friday and Saturday were bank holidays. The Bank was founded for a period of twenty years on the 21st of January, 1875, with the privilege of issuing notes payable to bearer in the French Colonies. It opened its first branch at Saigon on the 18th of April, 1875, where it replaced the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris. In 1876 it opened at Pondicherry. In 1885 it opened an agency at Haiphong, and in 1888, its privileges having been renewed and its statutes modified, it opened branches or agencies successively at Nouméa, Hanoi, Tourane, and Phom Penh. In 1894 it replaced the Comptoir d'Escompte at Hongkong and in 1897 at Bangkok. Its head office is at Paris, the Chairman of the Council being M. Denormandie. It has been very successful and its 500-franc shares, 125 francs paid up, are quoted in demand at 820 francs. The Shanghai agency will doubtless have a successful career under the popular management of M. J. Arranger.

THE new Municipal loan, amounting to Tls. 300,000, has been entirely applied for, the average price being slightly above par.

IT will be learnt from the telegrams from the Nagasaki paper that Marquis Ito, the Japanese Premier, has resigned and apparently his Cabinet with him.

AMONG the passengers who arrived here by the *Tungchow* from the North on Wednesday were Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., and the Misses Morgan.

MR. Moreing, Mr. Black, Mr. Shockley, Mr. Cartwright, and Miss Pritchard-Morgan left for home by the *Empress of India* on Saturday. Mr. Pritchard-Morgan, M.P., and Mr. E. Guy Hillier left for the north by the *Haean* yesterday morning.

THE official circular has gone forth announcing the increase in the pay of the Customs staff. As originally stated in our columns, the increase amounts to 100 per cent for the indoor staff, about 66 per cent for the outdoor staff, and about 50 per cent for the Chinese staff down to and including the rank of writer.

TO-DAY being the "glorious fourth" our American friends have arranged to celebrate the occasion in due and befitting manner. There was a reception at the United States Consulate-General from ten to half-past twelve, whilst many American firms received their friends in commemoration of the American National Holiday.

THE Mih-ho-loong Rifles, "A" Co., S.V.C. monthly cup was shot for on Saturday morning. Ranges—500 and 600 yards. The competition was headed by Lance-Corporal Laing with 56 points, who wins the cup for the first time. There were six competitors.

THE polo games on the race course on Saturday afternoon were marred by a

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couple of accidents to players of a somewhat painful nature. Mr. Souter fell and his pony rolled over him severely injuring his foot and rendering his removal from the ground necessary. The other casualty was attended with rather more serious consequences. Mr. des Voeux was the victim and he was struck in the face over the eye his glasses breaking and severely cutting him. He bled profusely and it was at first thought he had sustained an injury to the eye. Fortunately this proved not to be the case though Mr. des Voeux suffered considerable pain.

A NOTICE was published from the British Consulate on Thursday stating that the vacation commences on Monday, the 18th inst., and terminates on Saturday, the 17th of September. During that period the offices of the Court will be closed at noon, and none but summary cases will be heard unless by special order.

IN order to encourage interest in shooting amongst the members of the Municipal Police force, the Council have just presented a handsome silver cup, value $50, to be shot for annually; the trophy will be called the Council's Prize and the competition for its possession will commence next month.

WE learn that a warrant has been forwarded from Shanghai to the British Consul in Chefoo for the arrest of the stranded steamer *Amarapoora*, which, it will be remembered, ran ashore on the S.E. Promontory in a fog early last month. It seems that the master and managing owner declined to leave the vessel, and, as no enquiry into the accident could be held in the absence of the master, this course has had to be adopted to force matters to a conclusion.

MILTON Libenstein, a petty officer of the U.S.S. *Monocacy*, died of acute enteritis at the General Hospital on Thursday morning. The deceased had only been ill for about two days and had only been taken to the hospital on the morning of his death. The funeral took place with naval honours on Saturday morning at the new Cemetery.

THE unlicensed dairyman, referred to in Mr. Christie's report to the Health Officer published with the Council's minutes in another column, who had used sealing-wax of a similar colour to that in use by a foreign dairy, was charged at the Mixed Court on Thursday with selling milk in the Settlements without a license. A fine of $50 was imposed.

WE learn from the *Echo de Chine* that Tsai Taotai is now trying on with M. Marty, the purchaser of the *Ningchow*, *Wooning*, and *Sinfokien*, the dodges which he employed with Mr. Bennertz, but M. Marty is too well backed up by his Consul, the Count de Bezaure. First, M. Marty had great difficulty in getting the *Ningchow* at all; then the Taotai declared that the steamers had no inventories. When the inventories were found, M. Marty made a total claim of Tls. 8,755 for various things missing but indispensable, and a further sum of Tls. 12,825 for indispensable repairs to the hull of the *Sinfokien*. M. Marty is willing to pay for internal repairs, but claims that it was understood that the hulls of the steamers were to be in good order. He has undeniable witnesses to the truth of this agreement, and the *Echo de Chine* warns the Taotai that he will not get out of this claim as easily as he got out of Bennertz & Co.'s claims. M. Marty has engaged his captains and engineers, and this is a costly business, and it will be more costly still if he has to cancel these engagements. The *Echo* concludes by saying: "Mr. Tsai shoul reflect on all this, and put an end as quickly as he can to a question which, if it becomes a burning one, may cost him very dear, as much from the money point of view as from that of his position."

ON Tuesday's *Echo de Chine* gives the minutes of the meeting of the French Municipal Council on the 1st instant, M. E. Bard in the chair. There were present Messrs. Dowdall, Hardoon, Robert, Wright, and de Malherbe, Secretary; absent, Messrs. Buschmann, Meuguiot, and Tillot. After the transaction of the usual formal business, a letter was read from the Consul-General for Portugal thanking the President for the part taken by the French Council in the Vasco da Gama celebration.—A proposition with reference to vacancies in the Council was approved.—A case of infraction of a permit to repair certain houses which had to be put back to a new line in the Rue de Paix was considered.—Reports were read on the desirability of acquiring a steam-roller for road-making work, and on the proposed enlargement of the east and west wings of the Municipal Hall.—It was decided to engage an assistant in the Works Department, Mr. A. Colomb having contracted fever from opening the ground at Tungkadoo.—Various small credits were granted, and the meeting adjourned.

THE *Echo de Chine* explains that the delay in the arrival of the material for the Woosung railway was due to the stranding of the *Adria* in the Red Sea, and that the Belgian manufacturers are not to blame. We learn from the same paper that the South-China Technical Mission, consisting of Messrs. Wiart, Petit, Feer, and Collin, who left Hanoi on the 10th of January, have just arrived at Shanghai. They came on foot from Hanoi to Changsha, through Kuangsi and Hunan. They are not allowed to tell what they have seen.—M. Marty has arranged his dispute with the Taotai on the basis of the latter paying one-half the claim.—M. Pichon, French Minister at Peking, is seriously ill with small-pox.

IN 1881 the P. and O. S. N. Co. built four steamers of the same type, the *Ganges*, *Sutlej*, *Clyde*, and *Thames*, the two first being built at Barrow, the third at Dumbarton, and the last at Glasgow. They have never been a great success, being bad sea-boats and requiring a large quantity of ballast to keep them upright. The *Ganges*, whose life came to such a melancholy ending at Bombay on Friday, was a vessel of 2,162 net and 4,196 gross tonnage and 800 horse-power. Her dimensions were 390 by 42.2 by 32.8 feet. She was built of steel and rigged as a 3-masted schooner. She left here last on the 15th of February under the command of Captain Creery.

MANY examples of English as she is wrote have appeared from time to time in our columns, but none better than the following circular, which has been distributed this week:—

GENTLEMEN,—With reference to notify to you for the employed in the various *Laundries* in Shanghai. But any washermen is quite inability of disadvantage to washing any Public and through the high price ruling now for Rent, charcoal, coal, soap, Rice, tc. its is never counterfeit. The committee of the *Laundries guild* are now to notify the general *public*, which must will be increase. If any gentleman or Lady are unbelief upward a few lines will can see the *Daily news* is written quitely distinctly, and obliged many thanks

Yours faithfully servant
THE LAUNDRIES GUILD.

Shanghai

IT is not impossible that Tsai Taotai will be appointed Chinese Minister to Washington in succession to H.E. Wu Ting-fang or Ng Choy.

A RUMOUR was current in native official circles here on Thursday that Chang Taotai (Manchu) of Chinkiang is to be transferred to this port in place of Mr. Tsai.

H.E. YÜ LU, Viceroy-designate of Chihli, called on the various Consuls here on Sunday afternoon. H.E. left for Tientsin by the *Hsinyü* on Wednesday morning.

A SERIOUS and fatal epidemic is reported, through native sources, as existing at Hankow. The epidemic is said to resemble a virulent form of cholera.

IT is reported from Peking that the Emperor has given his consent to the request of Corea to be allowed to establish a legation at Peking.

A CORRESPONDENT at Kuling writes most unselfishly, under date of the 28th ult.: "I wish you Shanghailanders could all get a whiff of this magnificent air here."

TSAI Taotai has transformed his two companies of body-guards, numbering some 180 men, into military constables to patrol Sinza, and has engaged a Superintendent of Police from Japan to take charge of the force.

ACCORDING to a Shaohsing dispatch, of three leaders of the mob which robbed rice shops and opium hongs in that city at the beginning of the current month, one was executed last week and the other two are to receive the sentence of banishment to the post roads in Manchuria.

IT is reported that one of the principal points for smuggling rice cargoes out of this district is a place called Shihtung, or Rock-cave, near Szetselin, about ten miles distant from the Woosung forts and on the borders between North Chuansha and the district of Paoshan.

THE "gold" coffin containing the remains of the late Prince Kung will be taken to its last resting-place in the Imperial mausolea, outside the Western gate of the city of Peking, near Eho Park, on the 5th instant. The ceremonies connected with this function are to be on an Imperial scale.

IT is stated that the river steamers have of late brought to Shanghai a large number of famine refugees and that these have begun to spread about not only in the Chinese suburbs but also in the settlements, tegging from passers-by whenever no police are in sight.

H.E. CHANG CHIH-TUNG, the Hukuang Viceroy, has sent 50 picked men from his bodyguard to Japan to be trained there. After three years the men are to come back, be appointed sergeants, and set to work to drill and discipline their less fortunate comrades.

THE twenty-five battalions of Kansu troops brought over to Chihli by General Tung Fu-hsiang by special command of the Empress Dowager, are to be stationed in five cities in Chihli forming a sort of semicircle around Peking to the southwest, *viz.*, at Chênting, Liuwuying, Hsinlo, Tingchou, and Paoting.

THE Shanghai magistrate has issued a proclamation warning his people that on the 4th instant there will be an eclipse of the moon—"eaten-up" is the phrase—and calling upon all loyal citizens to help him in making as much noise as they can "to rescue the devoured luminary."

A CIRCULAR dispatch from the Tsungli Yamên is being promulgated to the various Customs Taotais of the provinces informing them that from henceforth native opium is to pay only Tls. 60 per chest duty on reaching its place of destination, and that no other duties are to be levied beyond the Tls. 60. This regulation is to be perpetual.

AMONG the recent arrivals of rice cargoes at this port was one from Annam comprising over 3,000 *shih*, or large piculs, of Annamese rice, which arrived on Wednesday. This is now being sold at $6.80 per *tan* or small picul, or nearly a dollar less than the current price. The rice is said to be of very high grade, white as snow and larger than the local product.

MR. CHENG, the acting Mixed Court magistrate, on Thursday summoned some native contractors to tender for the proposed additions to the Mixed Court prisons, as well as for other improvements to the

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yamên itself. It is intended to extend the prisons by pulling down a number of shop buildings on either side of the front court-yard, on Nanking Road.

THE *Supao* states that it hears that Mr. Chêng, Acting-Magistrate of the Mixed Court, is soon to get the substantive appointment, and that he will probably take over formal charge of the seals of office on the 4th proximo. Mr. Chêng's Western education and his desire to conform to modern ways make him well qualified for the post.

THE Tientsin Committee of the *Tien Tsu Hui* having recently offered prizes for the best essays against foot-binding, received during last month 107 essays. The first prize of $20.00 has fallen to Mr. Yang Shen-chun, of the *Hupao* office, Shanghai; the second of $10.00 was carried off by a Tientsin University student; and the third, $5.00, was taken by a theological student at Tientsin.

OWING to the recent panic amongst the native population here through the report of a scarcity of rice in stock in Shanghai and a consequent famine in near prospect, Tsai Taotai has issued a rescript announcing that there is plenty of rice in Shanghai, that within a week or ten days large cargoes of rice will arrive not only from interior towns, near Soochow, but also from Siam and Saigon, and that there is therefore no fear of any famine overtaking this port.

IT is reported from Peking, says the *Supao*, that the Emperor recently presented Li Hung-chang and Chang Yin-huan with the 1st class decoration of the Double Dragon, and the recipients having thanked his Majesty for the distinction proudly wore their decorations as they left the Palace. This is the first time in the history of China that a decoration meant specially to be presented to foreigners has been given to Chinese officials and is a sign of the change that is now going on in this country.

THE health of Mr. Chang, the Mixed Court Magistrate, who went away to Chinkiang recently on sick leave, has rapidly recovered under the fostering smile of his superior officers; and to the general dismay of the Chinese, he is coming back at once. It is feared that he will resume his seat on the bench, and that the salutary reforms already inaugurated by his *locum tenens*, Mr. Chêng, will be annulled, and the Mixed Court revert to the disgraceful condition in which Mr. Chang left it. But we trust the Consuls will not allow this scandal.

DISPATCHES received from Peking state that the Emperor will accompany the Empress Dowager in her visit to Tientsin and that the date set for the visit is early next autumn. The principal object of the visit is to review the disciplined forces of Chihli under General Nieh, the Provincial Commander-in-chief, at Lutai near Kaiping, and Yuan Shih-kai, at Hsiaochan. The troops, however, are to be massed at Tientsin for their Majesties' convenience. The Tientsin Admiralty buildings are to be overhauled, extended, and repaired for the reception of the Imperial Court, while at the Eastern and Western Arsenals large pavilions are to be built in anticipation of their Majesties' inspection of those places when they come.

IT is currently reported in native official circles here that H.E. Yü Lu is to take over most of the posts vacated by Jung Lu in Peking now that the Empress-Dowager has changed her mind and appointed the latter official substantive Viceroy of Chihli. In our issue last week we stated that there was a probability of such an event happening owing to the greater confidence the Empress-Dowager has in Jung Lu than in Yü Lu, especially as her Imperial Majesty intended to visit Tientsin. It was therefore necessary that an officer of high trust and one popular with the army should be at the head of affairs in Chihli so as to overawe any malcontents who may be attracted to Tientsin by the news of the Imperial visit to that port.

THE Famine Fund Committee of Chinkiang acting on the advice of Southern, Chinese, have caused to be purchased from Wenchow 13,000 *shih* (large picul, weighing 160 catties) of dried sweet potatoes, of which it is intended to distribute to the famine districts north of Chinkiang and at Hsüchou prefecture, on the Yellow river, 10,000 *shih*, keeping 3,000 *shih* in reserve in Chinkiang for emergencies. It is stated that a couple of these sweet potatoes, which are of large size, when soaked in water and boiled, easily serve to satisfy the wants of an adult a whole day. This idea is likely to be adopted to feed the northern famine sufferers, as sweet potatoes occupy less bulk than rice and are almost as nourishing.

ACCORDING to the *Daily Chinese Progress* an unsuccessful attempt at rebellion was tried the other day in Hsiangshan district, near Macao. It seems that three men, all well-to-do, began recently to raise a force of men locally whom they styled volunteers, pretending to have received orders from Viceroy Tan of Canton to do so. A fleet of over a dozen sea-going junks were also armed with cannon and armed crews placed on them. These proceedings then came to the ears of the district magistrate of Hsiangshan and when further it became known to him that the conspirators intended to sack the city on the 23rd of June last, he telegraphed at once to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, General Ho, at Canton, who sent a couple of steam gunboats and arrested the three leaders, confiscating their arms and junks just the day before the intended rising.

THE *Daily Chinese Progress* reports that on the 25th ult. a large mob of discontented people, assisted by city loafers and riff-raff belonging to Hsiaoshan district, on the other side of the Chientang river, opposite Hangchow, made a raid upon the various grain dealers of the former named city, destroying their shops and either pouring the cereals in them into the river, or throwing them wholesale into the paddy fields and streets of the city. The riot was caused by the scarcity of rice, imports being infrequent of late, in consequence of which the grain guild gave out that only a *tou* of rice would be sold daily to each adult at an enhanced price; the measure, however, being so small that the anger of the people was aroused and this brought about the riot.

THE *Daily Chinese Progress*, which is generally reliable in its news, and especially official news, states that with the recall of H.E. Yü Lu to Peking there is a probability of H.E. Chên Pao-chen, Governor of Hunan, being promoted to the Szechuan Viceroyalty. This, we fear, if true, will be a most serious loss to Hunan, which owes its rapid and remarkable progress to Governor Chên's liberal views and earnest desire to educate his subjects to the necessity of developing the resources of their province and of keeping up with the times. The same paper also states that the Board of Rites has been commanded by the Emperor to draw up a set of rules of court etiquette for the guidance of audiences given to foreign Princes, nobles, and high officials in the future. The fall of H.E. Wêng Tung-ho is not unconnected with the arrangements he made with Baron Heyking for the reception of H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia.

WE are informed that the Chinkiang Taotai Chang Yü, who, it is reported, is to be transferred to Shanghai, is an old Manchu who has been for twenty-seven years a Secretary of the Tsungli Yamên. In consequence of his age, his habits, and his incapacity, he became insupportable to the members of the Yamên; a year or two ago a large contract between a German firm and the Chinese Government passed through his hands, and he made enough money to enable him to secure the Chinkiang Taotaiship, the members of the Tsungli Yamên being only too glad to get rid of him. He appears, from what we can learn of him, to be entirely unfitted for the post of Taotai of Shanghai, and we hope that, if the report of his intended transfer is true, the Consular Body will make enquiries as to his fitness for the post here.

OUR native correspondent at Peking writes that the high officials of the Imperial Government, with only a couple of conspicuous exceptions, have had their eyes opened at last to the false friendship of Russia and that the gratitude of the country for the aid in getting back the Liaotung Peninsula has been entirely misplaced. They have also begun to perceive the disinterested help of Great Britain; but that China, while not thanking Japan for pricking the bubble and exposing the hollowness of the country, certainly owes a meed of gratitude to that country for opening the eyes of the *literati* to the necessity of hurrying up and keeping pace with modern civilisation and requirements, a gratitude which will greatly deepen in the future if Japan continues to show her friendship, by helping China in giving instruction to her people whenever desired and siding with Great Britain in trying to preserve the integrity of China. It is further reported, and our correspondent believes it to be true, that it is the intention soon to dismiss from the military and naval services all foreign instructors with the exception of British, American, and Japanese officers. Under date of the 24th June our correspondent also states that Prince Ching had recovered from his recent illness and had begun to attend to his multifarious duties at Court, etc.

OUR Peking native correspondent sends us some notes on Jung Lu, the new Viceroy of Chihli. He says:—

Jung Lu is one of the most popular Generals in the Imperial army and one who loves his profession, having chosen it when a youth although his family influence could easily have obtained for him a good position in the Six Boards as a civil official. Jung Lu always likes to boast of being a military officer, especially whenever he is surrounded by a group of high literary graduates and civil officials. He has always been a dandy in dress and has the reputation of being the best dressed man in Peking, while the gilded youth amongst the Manchu nobility always copy his dress and swear by "Jung Lu's style." His horses and mules, also have ever been the finest in Peking, not even excepting the Emperor's stud, and he loves to mount the most fiery and restive cattle when riding out. This has led to several picked horses sent as tribute to the Emperor from Kuldja and Mongolia, but which no one could ride owing to their untamed and restive spirit, being specially presented to Jung Lu by the Emperor's command. His magnificence and lavishness make him a popular idol with high and low in Peking, which the people in the provinces are not slow to imitate. This is the man who now holds the responsible post of Guardian of he Dragon Throne, at Tientsin.

QUITE a sheaf of Imperial edicts were issued on the 23rd ult., amongst which were the following appointments:—Sun Chia-nai, ex-Tutor of the late Emperor Tung Chih and President of the Board of Civil Appointments, is made an Assistant Grand Secretary; Wang Wên-shao is made President of the Board of Revenue and member of the Grand Council—as already noted in these columns—and also a Minister of the Tsungli Yamên; Jung Lu is made substantive Viceroy of Chihli and Imperial High Commissioner of the Peiyang Administration; and Yen Mao, Assistant Military Governor of Kirin, is promoted

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full Military Governor or Tartar-General of the said province. Decrees issued the next day appoint Tsêng Kuang-han, Earl Weiyi—grandson of the late Viceroy Tsêng Kuo-chuan of Nanking—to be Vice-President of the Court of Censors; the Assistant Grand Secretary Kang Yi (formerly Governor of Kuangtung) to be Commandant of the Rifle Brigade of the Peking Field Force; Huai Ta-pu, President of the Board of Rites, to be Commander of the three regiments of Paoyi—hereditary slaves of the Manchus—guarding the Yuen Ming-yüen Palace, and also Colonel-in-Chief of the Niao-chiang regiment of the Imperial Guards; and Prince Na-yen-tu (Mongol) to be one of the Inspectors-General of the Peking Field Force.

An Imperial edict of the 26th ult. contains the following warning to Director-General Shêng:—"For the scheme of building a railway between Hankow and Lukou Bridge, Peking, we sanctioned the proposal to make it a mercantile enterprise open to all our subjects, and further specially appointed Shêng Hsüan-huai to be Director-General of the project. Two years have now elapsed since then and by rights we ought to expect that the work of surveying the route, buying up of land for the road, and such like, should be completed by this time. Now the proposed railway route is one of very great importance to the Empire and we cannot permit any delay to be made with the progress of the work. Furthermore, we have now the requisite funds in hand for building this railway and therefore command the said Shêng Hsüan-huai to commence work immediately. He is also to report to us in advance the manner he intends to carry on the said construction. Now if there be any more delays and it be found that there has been an air of levity in the prosecution of an affair of such grave and national importance, the question is asked whether Shêng Hsüan-huai will be able to avoid heavy punishment for conduct for which he is doubtless responsible. With reference to the Hankow-Canton Railway and the Shanghai-Nanking Railway we hereby enjoin upon those who have been authorised to conduct their construction to hasten with their work and refrain from unnecessary delay in the matter." Apropos of the above the *Daily Chinese Progress* publishes a report that Shêng signed a loan with the Belgian Syndicate for the building of the Lu-Han Railway on the same day that the above decree was issued.

The following Imperial decree of the 23rd ultimo is to hand:—When our dynasty ruled China we followed the old examination regulations of the previous Ming dynasty making a thorough knowledge of the Four Books *(Confucian Analects)* a *sine quâ non* to official preferment. In the reign of the second Emperor K'ang Hsi, this was changed and short practical essays were the rule, which, however, did not last long, for a return to the old methods was made shortly afterwards. Classical elegance and brilliant practical essays therefore became the rule at that time and erudite scholars were turned out not a few. But of late scholarship has daily declined and miserable results have been displayed by candidates at examinations. This apparently has been caused by general carelessness and apathy for the classics, etc., and we therefore now rarely meet with any erudite and brilliant scholars, while those who have been chosen for degrees owed it rather to the reckless methods of making the selections. It therefore has come to this, that we must make certain changes in the literary curriculum in order to enable the true scholars and really deserving to get advancement. We therefore hereby command that commencing with the next literary examinations, from those for Doctor down to the licentiate examinations throughout the empire, the candidates shall be examined in short practical essays instead of in subjects from the *Confucian Analects* as of old. As to how to effect this end, by arranging the various methods of examination, we hereby command the Board of Rites to consider the matter carefully and report to us as to the details of the said new course of examinations. We issue this special decree at this time really because the present methods of study are opposed to the necessities of the times and so deeply rooted by custom and habit that we are forced to order a change from the ruts of old literary procedure. The shallow customs of old will therefore be broken down and scholars while still making the Classics and Analects their foundation for learning will also be enabled, by being examined in short practical essays in current subjects, to keep their positions as true and erudite but practical scholars imbued with a through knowledge of present day topics. They will escape also the charge of being merely technical scholars possessed of empty knowledge. Let there be earnest and practical study, therefore, and thus justify this decision of the Throne towards going out of the way to secure true talent.

We have received *Tropical Diseases, a Manual of the Diseases of Warm Climates.* By Patrick Manson, M.D., LL.D. (Aberd.). With 88 illustrations and 2 coloured plates. 8vo, 607 pp. Cassell & Co., Ld., London, Paris, New York, and Melbourne. 1898.

Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. courteously inform us that the former "Kingsin" line of steamers having become amalgamated with the "Hamburg-American" line, a number of the well-known Kingsin steamers have now been re-named, as stated below:—

Wally	re-named	*Silesia.*
Ceres	,,	*Suevia.*
Hertha	,,	*Sibiria.*
Gerda	,,	*Sarnia.*
Erato	,,	*Serbia.*
Kriemhild	,,	*Savoia*

The following is a description of the ships which it is reported compose Admiral Camara's squadron:—

Pelayo, twin screw battleship, built at La Seyne in 1887; 9,900 tons; 330 ft. long by 66 ft. beam; draught 24 ft. 11 in.; 8,000 indic. h. power; armour—17¾ in. belt, 19½ in. gun position; 4 in. deck plating, 7 torpedo tubes, eight 10 in. M. L. R. Armstrong guns, seven 8-in., one 7.8 in. Hontoria, eight machine and three light guns; speed, 16 knots; normal coal supply 800 tons; complement, 600 men.

Emperador Carlos V., twin-screw armoured cruiser, built at Cadiz in 1895 at a cost of £734,000; 9,090 tons; length, 380 ft.; beam, 67 ft.; draught, 25 ft; i.h.p., 18,500; armour—belt, 2-in. gun position, 10-in., deck plating 6 1.8-in.; 6 torpedo tubes; two 11-in. (Hontoria) eight 5.5-in. q.f., four 3.9-in., two 2.7-in., four 2.2-in., and four 11.4-in., and two machine guns; speed, 20.25 knots; normal coal supply, 1,200 tons; complement, 500 men.

Alfonso XIII., twin-screw cruiser, built at Ferrol in 1891; 5,000 tons; length, 318.6 ft., beam, 50.6 ft., draught, 20 ft.; i.h.p., 11,000; speed, 20 knots; 5 torpedo tubes; four 7.8-in. (Hontoria), six 4.7-in., six 2.2-in. q.f. and six 1.4in. and three machine guns; complement 276 men.

Vitoria, broadside training ship, built at Blackwall in 1865; 7,250 tons, i.h.p., 4,500; speed, 11 knots, complement 561 men; carries eight 9-in. M.L.R. (Armstrong), three 8-in. one 7.8-in., and several lighter guns. (Recently modernised.)

Alfonso XII, (usually in commission as a transport), built at Ferrol in 1887, speed 17.5 knots, complement, 300 men; carries six 6.2-in. and a number of smaller guns.

Rapido, torpedo gunboat, built at Carraca in 1891, speed 18 knots, complement 80 men.

The others do not appear in the list, and are probably of the gunboat class.

The P.M. steamer *Peru* arrived at San Francisco on the 24th ult.

The U.S.M. steamer *Coptic* arrived a San Francisco on the 24th ult.

Messrs. Fearon, Daniel & Co., the agents, have received telegraphic advice from their San Francisco office that the *Peru* has been chartered by the U.S. Government and that consequently there will be no departure thence on the 28th inst.

The M.M. steamer *Melbourne* with the French mail of the 4th of June left Singapore for Shanghai at 1 p.m. on Tuesday.

The *Coromandel* with the London mail of the 10th of June left Singapore at 4 p.m. on Saturday for Shanghai.

The *Kingsing*, which arrived from Tientsin on Monday, reports that on the 25th she passed a water-logged junk 31 miles W.N.W. of Howki. The derelict is considered dangerous to steamers navigating between Taku Bar and Howki.

A native passenger died of fever on board the *Wingsang* on the passage up from Hongkong, and as there are several other like cases on board, the vessel has been placed in quarantine here. The nature of the disease is not precisely known, but Dr. Cox has all the suspicious cases under observation.

We have received the July issue of the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal*, published at the American Presbyterian Mission Press, Shanghai.

The General Managers of the American Cigarette Co. send us an excellent chromo-lithograph of a tabby cat with a napkin round its neck contemplating a packet of Little Sweetheart cigarettes. The connection is not obvious at once, unless the design is to pussh the sale of these well-known luxuries.

A native holding a respectable position in the Settlement was charged at the Mixed Court on Monday morning with furiously driving a pony and trap and colliding with a Municipal water cart and damaging the latter to the extent of about Tls. 20 on the Bubbling-well Road on the 26th ult. Prisoner, who did not appear in Court, was fined Tls. 20, out of which compensation was to be paid for the damage to the cart.—Several mafoos were brought up before the Court and charged with reckless and furious driving, and a fine of $5 was imposed upon each.—An unemployed native had no less than six different charges of theft brought against him. The first was for having stolen $87 (Mexican) one silver watch and one silver bangle value $97 from No 103, Nanking Road on the 19th ult.; the second for stealing a brass water pipe value $6 from 33, Shantung Road on the 30th of May 1897; the third for stealing one pair of spectacles and a piece of jadestone value $13 from 34, Shantung Road on the 5th of June; the fourth for stealing an opium pipe and a piece of brass value $10 from 255, Kiangse Road on the 5th ult.; the fifth for stealing four articles of silk clothing value $50 from the s.s. *Tatung* on the 8th ult.; and the sixth for stealing four articles of cotton clothing, six articles of silk clothing and some Chinese medicine value $100 from 18, Canton Road, on the 23rd inst. Prisoner was sentenced to receive 200 blows, six months' imprisonment, and to be deported.—The proprietor of the tea shop of which the floor collapsed a few days ago was brought on Tuesday morning. He told the magistrate that he was only a monthly tenant and that he had asked the landlord, Mr. Ching King-kee, on several occasions to repair the building but all that had been done so far was to put in a few wedges. The case was remanded until further notice, during which time the inspector of buildings would be asked to

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make an examination of the shop and a summons would be issued against the owner. —Five natives were charged with stealing twenty-three screw taps, value $57, from the Soey Chee cotton mill on the 20th instant. Three of them were released and the others were sentenced to receive 100 blows each.—Wong Tang-tsang, a shopkeeper on Broadway, was charged with retailing liquor on his premises without a licence, contrary to Municipal regulations. The defendant did not appear and the case was adjourned pending his arrest.—A little boy was sentenced to 100 blows on the hand and to be deported, for stealing $50 from complainant at Soochow on the 26th ult.—A dairyman from the Sinza district was fined $20 for selling milk in the Settlement without a licence.—For harnessing a pony to a carriage on Kwangse Road on the 21st ult., contrary to Municipal Regulations, a mafoo was fined $5.—Two Broadway shopkeepers, Wong Tang-tsang and Hang Kuo-lo, were charged on Wednesday morning with retailing liquor on their premises without a licence. A fine of $100 each was imposed.—Two men were charged with being concerned with a number of others not in custody in extorting five ducks by means of threats, and attempting to extort more ducks from complainant. Prisoners were sentenced to 200 blows each and three months' imprisonment.—A mafoo was charged with carelessly driving a waggon along Szechuen Road and colliding with a wheelbarrow and injuring the coolie. The mafoo was ordered to pay $8 compensation including hospital expenses.—The case of Evans *v.* Soo Pao-sun again occupied the time of the Mixed Court on Wednesday. The end of this local *cause célèbre* is now apparently in sight, as we learn that judgment will be given by the Court shortly.—On Friday morning a native was charged with stealing four articles of clothing and one opium pipe valued at $50 from the *Kutwo* while lying at the Hongkew wharf. Prisoner was sentenced to 200 blows, three months' imprisonment, and to be deported.—On Saturday morning a mafoo was fined $10 for furiously driving along the Bubbling Well Road on the previous day.—Another native jehu was fined $20 for a similar offence.—A native woman who is a well-known thief was sentenced to 200 blows on the face and to be banished from the Settlements for stealing a number of articles valued at $99, and stolen at various times and places.

WE have received the *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 25th ult.—The Censors are reported to be hard at work blackmailing prominent officials in the North.—The Taku Tug and Lighter Co.'s tug *Paokong*, formerly a stern-wheel steamer, was burnt to the water's edge at Tientsin on the 22nd, and nearly the whole of her cargo, consisting of hemp bags and Chinese medicine, was destroyed.

THE following notes are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 18th ult. :—

We regret to announce the death of Miss M. H. Rochfort-Wade of C.E.Z.M.S. which took place at Kuchêng on Monday morning. Miss Wade reached Foochow in the autumn of 1894 and proceeded at once to Kuchêng where she has been stationed ever since. She had made very fair progress with the language and for the last two years had been in charge of the Girls' Boarding School and the School for Training Bible Women. She was a quiet, unostentatious worker and it will be difficult to fill her place. The funeral took place on Wednesday at the Foochow Cemetery.

We hear that the Chinese Banks are now landing 10,000 bags of rice, and Mr. Ah Hing 2,000 bags, imported from the south for sale to the poor at cost price.

It is with regret that we notice the name of Mr. C. H. Brewitt-Taylor amongst the departures of the passenger list of the S.S. *Haeshin*.

Always courteous, but especially so in the very trying *rôle* of head of the Postal Department Mr. Brewitt-Taylor's departure is a distinct loss to Foochow, though naturally it is by his colleagues and subordinates that his loss will be most felt.

We learn that Mr. Brewitt-Taylor will be "*at home*" for the future in Peking where we trust that his talents and scholarly attainments will meet with due recognition and reward.

And the following from the *Echo* of the 25th :—

The S.S. *Glenogle* left Singapore at daylight on Sunday morning last, the 19th inst., 24 hours after the S.S. *Oanfa*.

H.M.S. *Daphne* is the only European war vessel in port. We understand that the French cruiser *Jean Bart* has gone to sea for gun-practice, and probably also to meet the flagship *Bayard*, for some time expected here. The *Descartes* has gone to Manila.

News has just reached Foochow that an attack which might have been attended with very serious consequences, was made a week or two since upon Miss Gardner, C. E. Z. M. S., near Kienning City. It seems that she was walking through one of the suburbs attended by a Biblewoman when a man suddenly seized her by the wrist and made an attempt to strike her with a chopper. Miss G. was able to wrench herself free and before her assailant could attack her again the Biblewoman bravely interposed and bore the brunt of the attack, being severely wounded on the arm. The man, who seemed to be mad, is in durance vile and we are glad to hear that the brave Biblewoman is in a fair way towards recovery.

WE have received Hongkong papers to the 29th ult.—We gather from the reports of the *China* enquiry at Aden, that Captain de Horne thought himself thirteen miles when he was only three miles from Perim. He never saw the light on Obstruction Point at all until it was too late to save the ship. "The main light on Perim Island had been in sight for some time when the second officer remarked to the captain that it seemed to stand up remarkably high considering that they were then supposed to be about thirteen miles away." Capt. de Horne assented and ported his helm, and the ship struck almost immediately. Capt. de Horne's certificate was suspended for six months and that of the supernumerary second officer was taken away altogether. All the other officers were acquitted.—The trial of J. de M. Ozorio for the murder of F. X. de Jesus was begun in the Supreme Court, Hongkong, on the 21st—Mr. H. M. Hillier, Commissioner of Customs at Kowloon, had ordered the *Zafiro* out of China waters, though she was entitled by international custom to stay 24 hours. — The report of the Hongkong Electric Co. for the year ending the 30th of April last shows an available sum of $36,124 to credit, and the directors propose to pay a dividend of 5 per cent, write off $15,475 for depreciation, and carry forward $5,762.—There were no new cases of plague and no deaths on the 23rd, for the first time since February.—The death is announced of Mr. John Forster, formerly of Foochow, one of the fathers of that port. He died suddenly, in London, aged 71 years.—J. de M. Ozorio was sentenced to death on the 24th for the murder of F. X. de Jesus, but an effort was being made to get his sentence commuted.—The plague has quite disappeared from Macao.—The British four-master *Muskoka*, Capt. Crowe, has just made the run from Cardiff to Hongkong in 86 days.—Mr. Ho Wai-sun, a solicitor, brother of Dr. Ho Kai, died on the 25th of fever.—The U.S. Congress has decided to give Admiral Dewey a memorial sword, and a bronze medal to all the officers and men engaged in the battle of Manila.—The Dragon Boatmen having made a row at Shameen on the 24th, six of the ringleaders were seized by the municipal police and locked up. Threats were made to burn down Shameen, and accordingly the Consul with some members of the Shameen Municipal Council appeared on the scene and released *the prisoners*. The correspondent of the *China Mail* naturally says that the boatmen felt they had won an easy victory over the foreigners and "the moral effect on the Chinese will be terribly pernicious."—The peculiar movements of the German squadron in Manila Bay were causing Admiral Dewey some anxiety. Captain General Augustin describes the German visit as "the appearance of a vulture to pick the poor Spanish carcase." —The *Sungkiang* had arrived at Hongkong from Iloilo, and reported all quiet there.

THE following notes are from the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—

On receiving the telegram announcing the arrival of the Spanish fleet at Port Said, Consul-General Wildman, with his usual energy, at once set about securing a special steamer to convey the news to Admiral Dewey without loss of time. The steamer left yesterday.

The *Times of Ceylon* of the 13th June says :—The mail just in brings news from Aden that hopes of getting off the *China* are gradually diminishing. It is now two and a half months since she went on shore, and some people seem to think even if she were got off, that she would be so badly strained as hardly to be of much use. If the work of getting her off has to be abandoned, the Salvage Company at work on her will commence to gut her, taking out her engines and all her fittings and everything of any value in the ship.

The U, S. troopships (which are being convoyed by the *Charleston*) from Sun Francisco and those aboard are as follows :—

Australia—General Thomas M. Anderson ; Major S. R. Jones, Quarter-master ; Captain H. P. McCain ; Lieutenant S. E. Cloman ; Lieutenant E. W. Clark ; Oscar King Davis, correspondent New York *Sun* ; headquarters N. C. S., band and Companies A. B. C. D. E. G. H. K. and L. Second Orgeon Infantry, United States Volunteers; Lieutenant Holcombe, United States Navy.

City of Peking—Headquarters N. C. S., band and Companies A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. L. and M. First California United States Volunteers, Commander Gibson, eight officers and seventy-six enlisted men, United States Navy.

City of Sydney.—Band and Companies A.C.D.E. and F. Fourteenth United States Infantry, detachment Batteries A. and D. First Battalion First California Heavy Artillery, United States Volunteers ; Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, United States Navy, Chief Engineer Chalker and twenty seamen, revenue cutter service, Major P. G. Eastwick, Jr., and Companies F. I. and M. Second Oregon Infantry, United States Volunteers.

IN its notes on the possible bombardment of Manila by Admiral Dewey the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 28th ultimo says :—

Apparently the Governor-General is trusting to the German squadron to prevent this catastrophe, for he has issued a proclamation in which he declares that the Germans are sure to keep the Americans from bombarding and capturing the city, adding that there is a strong fleet coming out and that before long the Spanish and German vessels will drive the Americans out of the harbour. He, therefore, urges the inhabitants to do everything they can to resist the enemy. By the way the Germans, who are commanded by Vice-Admiral von Diedrichs, have at present five vessels at Manila, and it is reported that they will shortly be reinforced by the *Deutchland* (with Prince Henry) and the *Gefion*. Great preparations are being made for the Prince's reception.

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We have received Corea and Japan papers with dates from Seoul to the 16th, Yokohama the 23rd, Kobe the 24th, and Nagasaki the 28th ult.—The person who calls himself Professor Richard, the electrician, went to Yokohama from Tokio on the 17th and has not been seen since. —It was understood that the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. were to run a service of fast trains making the run between Montreal and Vancouver in 100 hours. The service was to begin on the 29th of May, and the trains were only to stop at the more important stations.—Two more 275-ton torpedo-boat destroyers have been ordered in England for Japan.—It appears that "Professor" Richard left Yokohama in the *Arizona* under the name of Robison for Tacoma.—Mr. Chas. A. Taylor who has resided over 25 years in Japan and was connected with the Japan Fan Co., died at Kobe on the 22nd ult., aged 54.

The following telegrams are from the *Kobe Chronicle* :—

Peking, 20th June.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (as was recently announced) has contracted to advance to the Chinese Government the sum of two million pounds sterling for the purpose of constructing a railway from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang.

The Russian Government regards this contract as infringing her privileges in connection with the Manchurian railway and has raised objections. Russia has demanded the cession of Ili.

21st June.

Russia has stopped Chinese men-of-war with foreign officers on board from entering Port Arthur. The Chinese Government resents this, and negotiations are proceeding between the two Powers.

The British Minister in Peking is privately assisting the Chinese Government.

Seoul, 21st June.

The Corean Government has decided to construct a railway from Seoul to Mokpo. This announcement is made in to-day's *Official Gazette*. It is also announced in the *Gazette* that the Government will send ten students from the English and French language schools to Europe to study postal administration.

Tokio, 22nd June.

An Imperial Ordinance has been issued, announcing that the amended Civil Code in its entirety, as well as the General Regulations and laws appertaining to the operation of the Civil Code, will be put into force on the 16th of July, 1898.

The Finance Department has decided to set apart ten million *yen* of the indemnity money for the purchase of Government Bonds. The Bank of Japan will purchase Bonds to the full amount at the Bank's quotation. An order was issued to the Bank on the 20th inst. The Bank, however, is withholding the information from the public, lest the price of the bonds should appreciate.

The Japanese Government appears to silently acquiesce in the annexation of Hawaii by America, as no steps have been taken to protest against it.

Peking, 22nd June.

The negotiations to float a loan in Belgium, for the construction of the Lu-Han Railway in China, have fallen through. Russia and France have offered to undertake the loan, but Great Britain has objected.

Tokio, 23rd June.

The amount of Government bonds to be redeemed was at first fixed at 16 million *yen*. The amount has, however, been increased to 30 million *yen*, and this fact has been communicated to the Bank of Japan.

Seoul, 23rd June.

It is believed that the object of the Corean Government in announcing in the *Official Gazette* its resolution to construct a railway from Seoul to Mokpo is that foreign Powers shall thus be prevented from demanding the privilege of laying rails between the two places.

Tokio, 24th June.

It is reported that the Japanese Government has abandoned its protest against the annexation of Hawaii by the United States, on the understanding that the rights already secured by Japan are retained.

The elder Statesmen attended the Palace together, reporting on matters previously considered at a secret conference of Ministers, Generals, and elder Statesmen.

Marquis Ito's Ministry has resigned.

Count Okuma and Count Itagaki have been summoned to the Palace.

June 26th, 7 a.m.

Marquis Ito, Minister President of State, tendered his resignation yesterday evening and offered to return to the Emperor all the Orders conferred upon him.

It is thought that Marquis Yamagata will organise a new Ministry.

Noon.

Marquis Ito, Count Itagaki, and Count Okuma held a meeting at the Prime Minister's residence yesterday evening. Marquis Ito informed the two Statesmen that the amalgamation of the Liberal and Progressive parties was completed and asked them to undertake the formation of a new Ministry. The Statesmen replied that they would consider the matter.

From the Seoul *Independent* we learn that Prince Min Yong-ik has been made Councillor of the Council of State.—Dr. and Mrs. Jaisohn left Chemulpo on the 26th May.—Mr. Min Yong-zun, a brother of Prince Min Yong-ik, has been sent to Southern China to buy rice, while all cereals imported into the treaty ports are exempted from import duty for five months. —An Imperial palace is being built at Chemulpo.—The shock of earthquake which was felt here at 0.30 a.m. on the 4th of June was felt at Chemulpo at 0.48 a.m. the same morning.

From Australian telegrams we learn that the French papers are urging the strengthening of the defences of Nouméa.—In a collision between the British steamer *Foscolin* and the U.S.S. *Columbia* off Fire Island in a fog, the former sank, and the latter had a large hole made in her and had to return to New York for repairs. No lives were lost.—£5,000 had already been subscribed on the 1st of June towards a national memorial to Gladstone.—There is trouble in the Balkan States.—Thirty-four Klondykers have been drowned by the foundering of the schooner *Lady Jane Grey*, bound from Seattle to Alaska.—The Spanish ambassador at Paris is trying to get the Powers to intervene between Spain and the U.S.—There were heavy and destructive snowstorms in Great Britain on the 1st of June.—The war is expected to cost the States £120,000,000 sterling this year.

The Queer Story in *Truth* this week is called "The Derby Devils" and relates an incident that is supposed to have happened in 1877. The queer thing about the story is that when the Devils sat down to lunch "the champagne particularly was unexceptionable—Bollinger '84."

A note in the *Investors' Review* says :—How hard driven the Prime Minister is at times by the zeal of his irrepressible and irresponsible colleague in the Colonial Office was curiously illustrated on Tuesday night by his Lordship's speech in reply to Lord Kimberley in the House of Lords. He had to say something about China and our position there, and on the spur of the moment, perhaps, he struck a new reason why we have "leased" Weihaiwei. Here are his interesting words :—

"Who shall say that China is for ever prostrate, because there are not men to give effect to the enormous material and physical forces she is possessed of? I should say what China wants is courage. One of my defences of the occupation of Weihaiwei is that it had a tendency to strengthen China against despair, and to give her courage, if the occasion should arise, to stand up against her enemies. The danger of allowing the occupation of Port Arthur to take place without any corresponding movement on our side was that China, or, at all events, large classes of Chinese, would give themselves up to despair, and believe that the domination of the foreigner was the destiny from which it would be impossible to escape. It was our business to tell them that, so far as we were able to prevent it, that destiny would not overtake them. I do not know that we could have done anything better for restoring their courage, and I am quite certain that there was no more effective method of driving them to despair than by allowing Port Arthur to be occupied by the Power that already stands over so enormous a portion of their frontier, and threatens them with so large a conquest."

In its way this is the best thing of Lord Salisbury's we have read for a long time and must possess an exquisite flavour of "drollery" to Englishmen in the East. To give "courage" to the Chinese mandarins; yes, that was it. Not your mere vulgar annexation, with a view to the partition of China, not "going one better" in rivalry with Russia. Nothing of the kind. China may be prostrate, as Mr. Chamberlain said, contrariwise to his chief, but "we mean to encourage her to get on her feet again." Excruciatingly humorous is this conception of our lofty mission of civilisation, and how mad we should all be were it to come true.

The *N. Y. Maritime Register* of the 18th of May says :—

The fact, which the *N. Y. Maritime Register* exclusively had ascertained and laid before its readers last Wednesday, that several European Powers were discussing a *modus operandi* how to prevent the United States from reaping its just reward from Admiral Dewey's brilliant victory in the Philippine Islands, was confirmed by a cable to the New York *Sun* last Sunday, four days later.* We hope that President McKinley has already fo lowed our advice and made known to the Powers in unmistakable language :

That the intentions of the United States are to extend their zone of influence to Cuba, Porto Rico, Philippine Islands and Hawaii Islands for strategical purposes.

And if not, that he will do so at once, as otherwise he will be called to strict account for this omission, which would constitute an unpardonable offence and amount to criminal negligence. We are well aware, that our diplomatic intercourse with Europe before the war was full of grave errors and that Mr. McKinley and Mr. Day with a figure-head as Secretary of State were the inferiors of Sagasta; we hope, however, that with the assistance of Mr. Moore and other valuable advisers, Mr. McKinley will make some progress in the art of diplomacy. We are exceedingly sorry, that thus far the President has not seen fit to act on our suggestion to replace the two estimable gentlemen at the head of the Navy and War Departments with able naval and military officers, an exchange urgently required in the interest of strategical operations, as the President could learn from every intelligent army and naval officer. It was the greatest drawback, that when the war broke out our Government had neither in Mr. McKinley, nor in Mr. Sherman, nor in Mr. Long, nor in Mr. Alger, a man who was fitted by training and experience to conceive and carry out with unerring logic diplomatic and strategical plans; still, we have achieved thus far wonders and we should not criticise too harshly, if only the President was willing to learn by experience and advice and correct as far as possible past mistakes.

* The latter states that England's attitude thus far prevented concerted action.

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Miscellaneous Articles.

WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

29th June.

"If only he could have been truthful occasionally," says Archibald Forbes of the Great Napoleon, "he would have come nearest to the ideal war correspondent, with Julius Cæsar a bad second, and W. H. Russell somewhere in the rear." But, as everybody knows, the "curse of modern armies" did not exist before the Crimean War. He is as modern as the rifle, and to the world at large as indispensable. For whenever, as at the present time, the "dogs of war" have been let loose, their baying never fails to awaken those very passions which civilisation would fain believe to be dying if not dead. But, like beauty, civilisation is after all only skin-deep; scratch it and you reveal beneath the pristine savage to whom war was a pastime and fighting a delight. Modern man has grown too great in number to allow of everybody having his share in actual battle, but as his fighting instincts are rather aroused than subdued by this enforced abstention, the war correspondent has been "invented" to supply the modern means of satisfying this old world requirement. From the fiery days of youth to the winter chills of age man wants to see and to know when there is war going on. Nothing is so popular in the newspaper world as pen and pencil pictures of fights by land and sea. They have the charm of an epic—of an epic moreover about whose main incidents there can be no manner of doubt; and for the time being the man who is most successful in producing them is more often in men's minds than Kings or Emperors.

Such a man is no common mortal. The triumphs of modern war correspondence written and pictorial are the achievements of our Forbeses, our McGahans, our Villierses, and our Priors, of men whose names, "familiar in our mouths as household words," are not the names of ordinary men. The ideal correspondent does not exist, and never did. But some of those who take his place and do his work are not to be lightly esteemed because they are not superhuman. What man may do they do. Ready at a moment's notice to travel north, or south, or east, or west, the war correspondent goes his adventurous way literally carrying his life in his hand. He may die from climate, from disease, from the accidents of travel, or from any other of the many ways which render the shuffling-off of this mortal coil so easy in times of war. The torrid plains of a tropical land, or the icy wastes of a northern clime may be the scene of his exploits. He may face death in the full noon-day glare of a Nubian desert, or in the dusky light of a tangled jungle. It may come to him in the form of a Dum-Dum bullet or the foot-broad blade of Fuzzy Wuzzy's spear. Distance lends no enchantment to the view, for the screaming shell from miles away is no less dangerous than the Zulu assegai or Afghan knife at close quarters. To be successful in his work the war correspondent must have a frame of iron with nerves of steel. To sunshine and storm, and wind and rain he must be equally indifferent. If he can live without food at one time and have the digestion of an ostrich at another, so much the better. At any rate his constitution must be such that he can exist upon next to nothing, and sleep upon less. His endurance must be that of a camel, for awakened from a restless sleep at early dawn he may be in the forefront of a battle with all its danger and wearying excitement till eventide sets in. Then there may be a hundred miles or more to ride to the nearest telegraph station, where on arrival he must sit down without a moment's rest and write, hour after hour, column after column of graphic description in good round hand for the benefit of the long-suffering but not too intelligent clerk. "And after this, he *ought* to return at once to the front," says Archibald Forbes. But outraged nature at the end of thirty such hours imperatively calls a halt, and battle or no battle the wearied frame refuses to do more without a rest. How under such circumstances picturesque detail and well-balanced periods continue sheet after sheet to flow from the pen, how weary fingers and jaded brain manage to work loyally in unison to the end, Mr. Forbes and his friends have not told us. They vouch for the facts, and we see the results in print, and that is all.

Mentally, therefore, the war correspondent is no less remarkable than he is physically. To be successful he needs in the first place the gift of tongues. He should moreover be a Dickens in descriptive power and a Moltke in military insight. It is only the failures who fritter away their time in watching subordinate movements; it is only the incompetent who trust to other eyes than their own; and it is only the cowardly who at a safe distance concert and compile their jumble of fact and fiction from the reports of other men and the gossip of the camps. The successful men go to the front, see with their own eyes, judge with their own judgment, gather their own facts, post off in their own persons with their budget of news, and have the unique satisfaction of startling a waiting world with the news which they are the first to bring. In one instance we see a jaded, disappointed, desponding Emperor cheered by tidings of the success which his troops had gained in the stubborn battles in the Balkans in the war of 1877-8. In another we find both Houses of the British Parliament listening with eager attention to the telegram of a correspondent, who hours before the hirelings of the government had thought it possible, had sent news of the engagement in which Isandlana was avenged. Such a man becomes the confidant of kings and princes, a *persona grata* in camps and trenches, the recipient of the earliest and most reliable "tips," and possibly a mine of wealth to the journal he serves. On one occasion thanks to prompt action, the electric telegraph, and longitude, a report of a battle fought in Afghanistan or rather in the Khyber Pass, at about 10 a.m., local time, was actually being sold successively in the streets of London, New York, and San Francisco before that hour in their local times. Time and space had apparently been annihilated. It is easy to believe that the trials, the excitements, the exposure and the many dangers to life and health in such a life as this render ten or a dozen years of it as much as any ordinary man can bear. Yet who that could would hesitate to enter upon such a career? What are hardships, dangers, wounds, even death itself when placed in the scale against those glorious hours of crowded life, of the incidents, the excitements, and the glamour of war? The crackle of musketry, the crash of exploding shells, the flash of guns, the swift cavalry charge, the clash of steel, the glint of bayonets, and all the multifarious sights and sounds of a battlefield have an irresistible attraction for every fighting animal. Then too the ever-present fact that the onlooker is watching the making of history, and actually chronicling it at first hand, that pregnant sentences full of the fate of nations fall upon his ear, and that the actors in the mighty drama are standing close at hand. These are some of the experiences for which almost any man would sacrifice years of an ordinary humdrum existence. It does not fall to every man's lot to witness the decline and fall of a dynasty, to see a Napoleon in all his glory in Paris, to watch the baptism of fire at Saarbrück, to be present at the capitulation at Sedan, to visit the room of death at Chiselhurst, and to see the last sad scene of all—the extinction of Imperial hopes by the assegais of nameless savages in a nameless *donga* in southern Africa. No man but a war correspondent could ever have such experiences as those, and apart from the interest their recital arouses in millions and millions of men, they must have brought their own satisfaction to the witness himself, the satisfaction, sad enough doubtless at times, of having lived, and moved, and acted with and amongst the great men of his generation, and watched and chronicled their greatest deeds.

What may be in store for the war correspondent in the war now going on it is difficult to say. But there should be no lack of excitement in any Cuban campaign, for to the ordinary dangers of a soldier's life there may be added swarms of alligators in the rivers, and trained bloodhounds on the land.

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THE ALLEGED SCARCITY OF RICE.

30th June.

The fears that have been current lately that the stock of rice in Shanghai was inadequate to the coming demand, induced a number of prominent Chinese merchants to concert measures with a foreign firm for the importation of rice from the South. Before settling, however, it was determined to make a thorough investigation of the stock of rice in Shanghai, and this was done on Sunday last. The result is that it turns out that there is thirty days' stock in the hands of the rice merchants, wholesale and retail; while in godowns in the native city there is a stock of 200,000 large piculs, or forty days' supply, belonging to a prominent local official who bought it before the recent rise and is holding it for a large profit, which he expects to make if the scare can be kept up. There is thus seventy days' supply in Shanghai, and there are large supplies at some of the river ports and in the central provinces, without drawing on which, however, and this the officials are doing all they can to prevent, the stock here is amply sufficient until the new crop comes to market.

THE "FAR EAST."

30th June.

The June issue of this valuable monthly is a very interesting one, giving, as it does, a very clear account of the political situation in Japan, a matter of very deep interest to us at the present moment. Circumstances may bring us even sooner than we expect into an offensive and defensive alliance with the island empire, and hence the special value of the information as to the condition of the coutry that we find in this "exponentn of Japanese thoughts and affairs." The issue before us, published on the 20th, is brought down to the 16th instant. The frontispiece is a reproduction of a photograph of the Peeresses' School, Tokio, a fairly handsome building in the Tudor style; there is an admirable full-page likeness of Mr. K. Ito, a celebrated botanist who was appointed to the Tokio University in 1881, and at the age of ninety-six still enjoys good health and mental vigour, and has not ceased to study and to write. There are several small drawings in the text of the articles on gold fish culture and rice cultivation.

The editorial article, a very well-written one, is on "Parliamentary Government in Japan." It begins with a notice of the recent dissolution of the House of Representatives, and says that "one of the anomalies of Japanese politics is that, in the Ministerial changes that have taken place since the inauguration of the constitutional system, the power of government has generally not fallen into the hands of those who gave occasion to the downfall of the outgoing Cabinet." That is to say, the Opposition in the Lower House of the Diet can upset the Government, but it cannot form a Government itself. The Progressive party under Count Okuma upset Count Matsukata's Cabinet, but it was Marquis Ito and not Count Okuma who came into power when Count Matsukata fell. Increase of taxation was the rock on which Count Matsukata split; his policy was that of actively enhancing national progress and expansion, which necessarily involved heavier financial burdens. Marquis Ito had not definitely declared himself against national expansion, but Count Inouye, his Minister of Finance, was supposed to be in favour of general retrenchment. Once in power, however, Marquis Ito himself found it impossible to go back. "The recent events in the Far East have made it clear, even to those who run, that Japan must be on the alert, and that she has not a moment to lose in preparing herself for pressing eventualities." Investigation showed Count Inouye that he had practically to adopt Count Matsukata's scheme. Taxation must be increased. "In the Imperial Rescript addressed to the members of both Houses, exactly the same words as in the preceding session were used with regard to the financial measure, saying that His Majesty had instructed the Ministers of State to fix upon a scheme of increased taxation in order to put the finance on a firm basis." The only difference between the schemes of the two Premiers was, that while Count Matsukata proposed to raise 24,900,000 *yen* by raising the land and *saké* taxes, Marquis Ito and Count Inouye, the champions of retrenchment, propose to raise 31,600,000 *yen* from the land, income, and *saké* taxes.

It is, in fact, generally acknowledged now that the military and naval preparations that are being made must not be curtailed, and that for the credit of the country the necessary expenditure must be met, as far as possible, by ordinary revenue. "Another consideration having weight with business men is that the increase of taxes facilitates the introduction of foreign capital by putting the national finances on a firm and secure basis . . . and it may now be fairly asserted that the necessity of increased taxation is generally admitted by the intelligent public." Why then was the Land Tax Reform Bill, which constituted the main item of the scheme for increased taxation, negatived in the Lower House by a vote of 247 against 26?

The opposition to it relied on mere quibbles, and this shows that there must be something wrong in the system. "Is Parliamentary Government in Japan a failure, then? Some foreign critics seem inclined to answer in the affirmative; but we refuse to do so until every possible trial shall have been made. The age of the Parliamentary Institution in Japan is still less than a decade, not a very long space of time in the life of a nation." The difficulty has been that while the various parties have constantly been strong enough to turn out the Government, a few of the elder statesmen have monopolised power, and insisted on retaining their positions irrespective of the proceedings of the Diet. Party Government is still unpractised in Japan, but it is drawing nearer every day. An amalgamated party has just been formed by the opposition cliques, and Marquis Ito is forming a Government party. "The amalgamation of the existing parties and the creation of a new party by Marquis Ito will be a long step towards the realisation of Government by Parties which has been the ideal of politicians for many years." The question is whether Marquis Ito is really determined to organise and lead a popular party.

Mr. Tei-ichi Sakuma sends a very interesting account of "The Industrial Mutual Thrift Association of Tokio," a co-operative society which, starting in a small way, promises to become a valuable institution, and should have many imitators. It was founded in July, 1896, and at the end of May last it had 260 members, who had paid in 3,766 *yen*, the loans to members amounting to 2,714 *yen*. In the first half-year there was a net loss of 24 *yen*; in 1897 it paid 6 per cent and put 5 per cent of the net profits to reserve. An interesting article follows on "The Present Economic Depression and the Proposed Measures for Relief." The author, Mr. Nariaki Kozaki, believes that prosperity will only return when the law of taxation is revised, the Bank of Japan shall no longer be permitted to gain unreasonable profits by the extraordinary issue of notes, and the loan boads shall be gradually redeemed.

There is a statistical article on the "Relief of the Poor in Japan," another of an interesting series of articles on "Buddhism in Japan," and the conclusion of a series, full of information, on "Fishery Industries of Japan." We learn that the total value of the principal products of the Japanese fisheries in 1898 was five and a-half million *yen*. There is an excellent account of the proposed revision of the electoral law, one of the objects of which is to give minorities representation by introducing the mononominal mode of voting, so that each voter can only vote for one candidate. In an article headed "Japan's Unused Storehouse," Mr. Chas. E. Garst shows that there are 85,000,000 acres of public land in Japan which might be brought under cultivation, while agriculture generally in Japan is in a very backward condition. Professor T. S. Perry sends some "First Impressions of Japan;" and Mr. Akamaro Tanaka concludes his valuable series of articles (in French) headed "Extrême Orient."

The illustrated articles on Gold Fish Culture and Rice Cultivation are interesting to foreign readers, and there

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are other short miscellaneous articles, reviews, and news and notes. The programme of the new amalgamated party is given, as follows:—

"Loyalty to the Throne and protection of the Constitution.

"Establishment of a responsible Ministry.

"Reform of the Administration.

"Keeping the balance of revenue and expenditure and putting the national finances on a firm basis.

"Development of local autonomy.

"Maintaining national rights in diplomacy and enhancing international trade.

"Extending the Army and Navy to a proper degree.

"Perfecting the means of communication.

"Developing the resources of wealth and encouraging industry.

"Improving the educational system and encouraging the progress of science and art."

On which the *Far East* sagely remarks:—

"These are certainly objects worth striving for. But the nation will be more interested to know what measures are proposed for attaining them. It is on concrete and clearly defined measures that the lines of policy are to be divided. One may well ask, for instance, How is the balance of revenue and expenditure to be maintained? By increasing the revenue or by decreasing the expenditure? That is the vital question."

ROAD WIDENING IN SHANGHAI.

1st July.

AT the special meeting of ratepayers held on the 11th of March last, an amendment to the Land Regulations giving the Municipal Council fuller powers for acquiring land for new roads, the extension and widening of existing roads, etc., was passed *nemine contradicente*. For years the Council have been trying to get these powers, the most urgently required improvements being often fatally blocked by the obstructiveness of absent landowners, and some twenty years ago the British Minister, Sir Thomas Wade, promised the then Chairman of the Council that he would do everything he could to get the Council these necessary powers. The Council is still hoping to get them.

The minutes published in our columns yesterday morning of the Council's meeting on the 22nd ult. contain some correspondence in which the necessity for these powers is most plainly demonstrated. On the 20th of April last, Mr. Mayne, the Municipal Surveyor, wrote to Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson, and McNeill, who had applied for a permit to rebuild the houses on Cadastral Lot 276, that the Council was anxious to acquire a strip of the land to widen the Foochow Road, one of the narrowest and most crowded roads in the Settlement. The piece required measures 374 square feet or one-twentieth of a *mow*, and the Council offerred for this the sum of Tls. 1,055, which is at the rate of over £17,000 sterling an acre. The land belongs, it appears, to Mrs. Cowie, widow of the late Mr. J. G. W. Cowie of Shanghai. Mrs. Cowie is now a resident in England, and her interest in Shanghai is confined to receiving an income from her property here. Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson, and McNeill write to the Council that they "wrote fully to Mrs. Cowie, advising her to accept the terms offered, but have received her answer by telegraph declining." Thus Mrs. Cowie, an absentee landowner, is able through the defects in our Land Regulations as they stand to permanently block an urgently demanded public improvement, even though her agents on the spot, who are more fully conversant with all the circumstances than she can be, have advised her to accede to the Council's request.

It is monstrous that this should be possible, and this is only one instance of what occurs too often. Absentee landowners cannot be altogether suppressed while Society remains constituted as it is, grumble as we may at the way in which they fatten on our labour; but they should not abuse their legal rights. Legally, no doubt, Mrs. Cowie is justified in refusing to consent to the improvement the Council wish to make; but morally nothing can justify her obstruction; the income she receives from Shanghai is dependent on the continued prosperity of the port; she ought to be anxious to do her best to further that prosperity, not to obstruct it.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE INLAND WATERS OF CHINA.

1st July.

WE are glad to learn from the Reuter's telegram that we publish this morning that our Government will insist on the Chinese Government revising the regulations for the navigation of Chinese inland waters in a satisfactory sense. The regulations that we published on Wednesday are obviously only a very incomplete sketch. In the first place we find that it is only the inland waters of the Treaty port provinces that are opened; so that the Tungting Lake, one of the largest of the inland waters of China, and one on which there is a large traffic, is excluded. The Registration regulations are simple enough, but when we come to the Revenue section, we are quite at a loss to understand what the regulations mean. "Cargo shipped at Treaty ports is to be reported to the Customs and is to pay such duties as the Customs decide to be leviable." But will not the tariff duty and half-duty clear the cargo to any part of China? How are the Customs authorised to fix the duties? Then we find that "cargo landed or shipped inland is to pay at the place of landing or shipment whatever dues or duties the local regulations call for." We have been fighting for years against these local impositions, and it is impossible that our Government can officially recognise them like this. However, as they are to be revised in a satisfactory sense there is no use in discussing them at length, and indeed no argument is required to show that they are quite impracticable as they stand.

AN ILLUSTRATION WHICH OUGHT TO ILLUSTRATE.

2nd June.

IT is almost half a generation since the first Imperial Decree was issued authorising the construction of a railway from the Central Provinces to the Capital. At that period it seemed as if China was on the verge of adopting Western ways of transportation, to its great benefit, and perhaps to its political salvation. But the storm of opposition which these plans provoked was so great, that even a Government theoretically despotic was forced to heed it. It was not the officials who had to be reckoned with, but the Boat Guild showed itself to be a factor of prime consequence. It will be a long time before the piles of the railway bridge at Tientsin will be forgotten by foreigners who saw them pulled up in obedience to the clamours of those who saw in them the destruction of their means of livelihood. In the presence of demonstrations like these, Li Hung-chang was as helpless as any other Chinese, and the surrender was absolute. What was true of certain classes in Tientsin, was even more clearly demonstrated in the city of Tungchou, which reckoning from gate to gate, is only eleven miles from Peking. This is a very old place indeed, and since the Capital has been in Peking, it has been called—perhaps from the necessity of passing through it—the City of Penetration. As soon as it was known that the railway threatened the sacred precincts of this sub-prefecture, the excitement began, and continued with intermittent sequence for a term of years. It took possession alike of scholars, farmers, workmen, and merchants. The gentry were filled with terror at the thought of their graveyards being desecrated, and the *Manes* of their Ancestors disturbed by the shrill shriek of the Fire-wheel Engine. In the hope of averting this prime disaster, they prostrated themselves indiscriminately before any foreigner whom they knew of, hoping that he at least would take compassion on them. The shrewd Eunuchs of the Palace who knew very well that the railway was certain to go through, whatever the people might think of it, took pains to buy up large tracts of land where the station must ultimately be built. About three years ago, things were in this position when the despairing Tungchou people had a happy inspiration, and succeeded in getting on their side the

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Fourth Prince, next older brother of the Emperor's Father, Prince Chun. Although not a man of political importance, he could not be altogether ignored; and the result was that the railway was deflected, and that Tungchou was saved. Happy in their escape from the ruin which had so long overhung them, the people went joyously about their business. From these peaceful slumbers they did not awaken until a little more than a year ago, when they began to notice that the customary stream of spring traffic upon which in large part the City of Penetration has been built, was forsaking them. Especially was this the case when the Peking examinations took place last summer, at which time the railway was greatly overcrowded, and the boats were for the most part deserted. The plunder of the students on these occasions has alway been one of the most valued and profitable of the many industries of Tungchou, and this was lost at a blow. Russian tea began to be carried in galvanised iron box-cars direct to Peking, by which means the liberal stealing to which it had alway been subjected was suddenly checked. Even the Tribute Rice of the Emperor has of late been most jealously guarded by a new race of officials, and as all Tungchou had previously lived directly or indirectly upon the spoils of these fat pickings, the city is now reduced to extremities.

Merchants, inn-keepers, workmen, carters, and donkey-boys unite to tell us that the city is absolutely ruined and they now profess with more than the usual Chinese sincerity a repentance, which they would be only too glad to put into practice. "Give us a railway," they say, "and we will never complain any more." A score or two of firms have moved from the eastern suburbs of Tungchou to the southern suburbs of Peking. Meanwhile the region which ought to be benefited by the railway is unreached, as the line was obliged to pass through a territory where there is no through traffic of any sort, and to all appearances never will be any. Even should a branch line from Tungchou to the Capital be built, as is quite likely to be the case, the lost traffic will by no means return. At a critical point in the relations between the New and the Old, Tungchou chose the wrong road and the mistake is remediless. This case ought to be made widely known to the Chinese all over the Empire, as an illustration and as a warning, and as such we commend it to the editors of Chinese journals who desire to enlighten their countrymen as to the folly of resisting the inevitable. When the earliest transcontinental railways was run from the Missouri River to the Pacific, there was a tribe of Indians who resolved that the first train should also be the last. With a stout twisted raw-hide they ranged themselves half upon one side of the track, and half upon the other, the raw-hide stretched taut to throw the engine from the track. When the train had passed there were a great many Indians lying flat on their backs looking up into the sky—precisely the present attitude of the population of Tungchou.

Reviews.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

(FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 27TH OF MAY.)

With the thermometer in the shade at 96°.4 the reviewer of a pile of mail-papers feels inclined to say with a well-known picture in *Punch* many years ago "Politics next week!" But *Punch* might safely put off politics for a week, because an English summer is comprised in three hot days and a thunderstorm; but here there is no reason for hoping that next week will be cooler than this. We need not indeed, out of pity for our readers as well as ourselves, make our review very long, for there is very little about China in the London papers, which confine themselves very much to two topics, Gladstone, and the War. As to the war, there is very little more real news than we have learnt from day to day by wire. As to Gladstone, we could fill columns with memoirs, personal recollections, appreciations, etc., etc., but we have only room for the following, sent by its Vienna correspondent to the *Times* on the 24th of May:—

The current number of the *Journal for State and Political Economy* contains an article on the occasion of Mr. Gladstone's death, noteworthy both for the intimate acquaintance it displays with the subject and with English affairs in general, and for the evidence it furnishes of the writer's freedom from the Continental, and now chiefly German, theory of the inevitable decline of the English speaking race. Some of the comments of the foreign Press on the death of the last of the great English statesmen show traces of the influence of this theory, which seems indispensable to the mental composure of certain classes in Germany, who appear unable to realise the fact that the earth is still large enough to furnish ample scope for the development of both Teuton and Anglo-Saxon.

After a cordial appreciation of Mr. Gladstone's greatness and his services to humanity, the writer says it would be a mistake to suppose that, because he has departed, the unparalleled race which in little more than three centuries has given to the world Shakespeare and Bacon, Cromwell and Milton, Harvey, Cook, Wellington, Nelson, the two Pitts, Peel, Byron, Mill, and Darwin is doomed to decay. Its decline was foretold by Rousseau more than 100 years ago. This propensity to prophesy its downfall has continued up to our own times, when through the efforts of Lothar Bucher it was adopted as part of the creed of modern German political philosophy. The answer of the Anglo-Saxon race to these prophecies has been an uninterrupted succession of great men, such as Livingstone, Cameron, and Stanley, who opened up Africa; Gordon, who rescued China; and Herbert Spencer, who has directed science into new channels. In the opinion of the *Journal for State and Political Economy*, the *rôle* of the Anglo-Saxon in history is by no means played out. Although that race has now lost one of its ablest sons, he will be succeeded by others, different in character but of equal greatness who, like their predecessors, will show the world that neither the creation of huge armies nor a realisation of the dreams of Anarchist frenzy is the final aim of human civilisation.

There is very little about China in the papers this week, even in the *Globe* which keeps a very keen eye on what Russia and France are doing, and Lord Salisbury is neglecting to do, in the Far East. In its issue of the 23rd of May it says:—

The Peking correspondent of the *Times* announces that on Saturday a contract was signed at the Tsungli Yamên with the Russo-Chinese Bank for the construction of a railway from Chengting to Taiyuenfu. The proposed line is to be built by Russian engineers, the money being advanced by the bank named. The director of the bank, M. Pokotiloff, is, we are further informed, engaged, in conjunction with the French and Belgian Ministries, in negotiation with the Tsungli Yamên to provide money for a line between Chengting and Hankow, destined to unite Peking with the Yangtze. It is added that work will be begun at both ends of the railway simultaneously, that foreign (that is to say Russian) control is assured, and that there will be no Chinese Government guarantee. This is in itself an astonishing story, though we can hardly affect to be much surprised at it ourselves. It is, indeed, fully in keeping with what we have been saying for months past as to the transparent designs of Russia, though we must own that their development has been a little more rapid than we had anticipated. We have unceasingly pointed out that our antagonist was acquiring the power to dominate the capital of China and the whole Empire from the north, and this new announcement only confirms the accuracy of our forecast. But let us consider what it implies. We have been bidden to rejoice in the acquisition of a sphere of influence and commercial activity in the region of the Yangtze, and great expectations have been held out as to what we should be enabled to accomplish in the *hinterland* of that river. Now we find that it is to be invaded by Russia by means of a railway whose terminus is to be the most important town in the district, the very seat and centre of its commerce. In a word, no sooner have we got possession of an open door than a back entrance is secured by our rival into the heart of our domain. In view of this audacious scheme, we would ask, is it possible to remain any longer in doubt as to the ultimate aims of Russia?

And on the 25th it gives a very salutary warning, which we only hope that the Chambers of Commerce at home have seen: it is an answer, too, to the optimistic writer in the *Spectator* referred to later:—

An object-lesson of a very striking sort is presented to those who believe or feign to believe that ports in the Far East which pass under foreign control will remain open to British trade. That enterprising corporation, the Castle Steamship Company, has come to the conclusion, it is reported, that it is no longer worth its while to send steamers to Madagascar. That traffic paid reasonably well until the French Government, having annexed the great island, imposed practically prohibitive duties on foreign goods. This taxation so largely increased their cost that the islanders had to content themselves with French manufactures, although of inferior quality. Our trade consequently shrank more and more until it is now a mere skeleton of what it used to be, and England is shut out from a market of almost limitless promise. It will be argued, no doubt, that this loss could not be prevented, as France, by substituting annexation for her previous protectorate, required and exercised the right of abrogating all commercial treaties between the Malagasy Government and foreign nations. But was any determined effort made by England to safeguard her commercial interests? There was some sort of feeble protest, we believe, but when the French Government took up a firm attitude, Lord Rosebery meekly bowed to what, for the sake of diplomatic convenience, he chose to regard as inevitable. It is this constant giving way to pressure boldly employed which, during late years, has so weakened British prestige in the eyes of the world. Protests are as worthless as undignified unless there be fixed resolve to make them effective by deeds of one sort or another. In the case of Madagascar, France thus had the way made easy for the aggrandisement of her own trade at the expense of ours.

The *Daily Mail*, too, keeps up its interest in China; it writes on the 25th of May:—

The question of Weihaiwei was again brought up yesterday in the House of Commons, but no explanation was afforded as to how the commercial development which Lord Salisbury prophesied is to come about in face of our assurances to Germany that we would

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lay down no railway between Weihaiwei and the interior. It is, however, satisfactory to learn that we have secured the lease of the port on the same terms as Russia has secured Port Arthur. The possession of Weihaiwei will at least enable us to watch effectively Russian doings in the Gulf of Pechili.

Having annexed Kiaochou without the smallest difficulty, the appetite of Germany for coaling stations is growing. The *Berlin Post* is of opinion that others must forthwith be acquired, as if coaling stations were unconsidered trifles to be picked up anywhere. In West and East Africa, Germany has possessions where she is already developing naval bases. But the *Post's* utterance seems to point to some further movement in the Far East—to the acquisition of a fresh port in Southern China, or possibly to the annexation of the Carolines or one of the Philippines. Before Germany can go to work in this manner she must consult England; for if she spurns our alliance we cannot look upon her aggrandisement with satisfaction.

The same paper has the following cheering remarks on the 26th of May in reference to the much desired Anglo-American alliance :—

The *rapprochement* between England and America is making way. An unexampled number of dispatches and countless celebrations on the occasion of the Queen's birthday have conveyed to this country the good-will of the United States. It is a remarkable fact that in so wide a body of opinion there is no discordant note. American soldiers—perhaps for the first time—have cheered in their camps for the British Minister; American Generals have presided at meetings in honour of the Queen's birthday. The British national anthem is played almost daily and received with enthusiasm. The old evil days of the Civil War, when England was almost a hated enemy, have passed away let us hope never to return.

At the bottom this feeling is due to gratitude. Americans have seen that their motives are misrepresented and their aims misconstrued in Continental Europe. They understand that the sympathy of France, Russia, and Germany are not with them. They are aware that intervention was attempted by the Powers and foiled by England. They perceive at the same time that there is no doubt, no distrust, and no suspicion of their intentions in the British Empire. England, Australia, Canada are at one with them, and almost for the first time in history the whole of our race stands as one man. American friendliness is warmly reciprocated in this country by every one from our Royal Family downwards. We too shall not forget.

Though the unanimity of the people of the United States is proved by the fact that the most timorous editors of the most timid papers have nothing to say against this union of hearts, it would be rash to assume that there will be no opposition. There will be opposition; if from no other party from the Irish. With infinite patience and with unwearying effort England and America should work for that far-off object of desire, a close alliance, forgetting the past which should be forgotten and remembering the past which should be remembered.

In reference to the same subject, the *Daily Chronicle* of the 25th of May says:—

The remarkable celebration of the Queen's birthday in the war camp at Tampa marks an epoch in the history of "the balance of power." It is not merely that General Shafter gives a banquet at his headquarters in honour of the Queen, that the ships that wait in the offing to carry the American force to Cuba are dressed with bunting in her honour, and that the toasts are drunk under the intertwined flags of England and America. These things are notable. But it is still more notable that the Secretary of State himself should send a telegram to say that the United States Government regard this unique celebration "with friendly interest." When one thinks that it is only the other day that many dominant forces in American public feeling were steadily and often strongly anti-English, and that the stalwart republicanism of the New World is not overfond of royalties, this change of attitude is full of moment. It is impossible for even the sceptical to suppose that it is an official trick intended to cast dust in the eyes of Continental diplomatists. The official recognition has only set the seal on a movement of spontaneous popular feeling which has for many weeks been manifest to those who cared to understand. . . . . There used to be an idea that all or most of the anti-English sentiment in America was due to the Irish element. Good observers will not need to be told that this was far from the truth. . . . The common political interest in a larger measure of self-government and individual freedom than other countries understand is an equally important link.

It is satisfactory to see that at this critical period, Sir Julian Pauncefote, who is certainly our ablest ambassador now in office, has not been removed from Washington.

We have received by wire the news that the West African dispute with France is settled; with reference to this the *Times* writes on the 23rd of May :—

The statements with reference to a settlement of the West African question which have appeared simultaneously in some of the leading organs of French opinion may, we hope, be taken to indicate that an agreement satisfactory alike to France and England is not far from completion. The rumour that the agreement has been already signed may be dismissed as premature. There is, however, a sufficient similarity between the various summaries which are given to the presumed outlines of the settlement to lead to the conclusion that information upon the subject has been drawn from trustworthy sources. The *Figaro* states definitely that the most important of the reciprocal concessions upon which the agreement has been based involves the abandonment of Bussa to Great Britain, while France keeps Niki with two ports that are not named upon the Middle Niger, extending her rights of effective possession over a vast tract of territory and guaranteeing the *hinterland* of Dahomey. The *Liberté* dwells more specially on concessions made to France as to trade routes which largely compensate for the sacrifices made by France in other directions. The general tone of French comment is one of satisfaction, and the *Temps*, while dwelling on the commercial importance of Bussa, does not fail to recognise the necessity in all international agreements of mutual concession. "We must give," our French contemporary observes, "in order that we may receive." This is a spirit to which no exception can be taken. If the French negotiators have been able on their part to make the concessions most urgently demanded by public opinion in this country, it is both right and reasonable that they should ask for some fair return. There are a few points upon which it is impossible for us to give way. Those being conceded to us, there will be no disposition on this side of the Channel to carp at any honourable compromise which affords a solution satisfactory to both parties of the questions at issue between France and England.

It is impossible not to admire the cleverness with which Russia has induced France to keep our Foreign Office busy with this trivial dispute, so that the Cabinet might have as little time to spare as possible for the consideration of Russia's far more important designs in the Far East.

Here is a short extract from a leading article in the *Times* in reference to the second trial of M. Zola :—

The proceedings at Versailles yesterday on the second trial of M. Zola draw attention once again to one reason why little sympathy with M. Méline and his friends will be felt in this country. They have shown themselves a weak Government in a matter which has roused the conscience of all civilised States. The Press even of autocratic Russia, despite the ties which bind the empire of the Czars to the Republic, has protested against the iniquitous denials of justice which have marked the action of the State and of the Courts in the Zola prosecution. What took place yesterday shows that the irrational and unjust temper before which the Government of M. Méline quailed has not been assuaged by lapse of time. The *Procureur-Général*, the representative of the State, and the presiding Judge, the official guardian of the law, revealed their eagerness to gratify the prejudices of the masses as clearly as did their predecessors. The remarks of these functionaries, our Paris Correspondent observes, "will make people shrink in dismay from the retrogression in justice of this French Republic." The condemnation is strong, but few Englishmen will think it too strong for the conduct of these trained lawyers whose elementary duty it is to do right and justice without fear or favour. The actual results of the proceedings was in M. Zola's favour, as was inevitable.

We refer again later on to the question of British "suzerainty" over the Transvaal; meanwhile we may quote the following from a leader in the *Times* of the 27th of May :—

The tenour of Dr. Leyds' dispatch makes it tolerably plain that the reason why the Government of the South African Republic are so anxious to get rid of the term suzerainty is not purely sentimental. It affords strong reason to suspect that the desire to extract from us a renunciation of our suzerainty is intimately connected in their minds with the desire to induce us to consent to the interpretation or the execution of our treaty rights to the arbitration of some foreign Power or Powers. That is a step which in any conceivable circumstances we shall always absolutely refuse to take, or even to discuss. The sooner that President Krüger and his friends and party recognise this fact the better. If the Transvaal Government do not carry out their good intentions and abide by the Convention of 1884, it is our Government, and not the Government of any foreign State or their nominees sitting as arbitrators who will be the judges, and the final judges, of any infringement of that agreement. All British parties, and the overwhelming majority of our fellow-subjects in all the colonies, including those of Dutch descent in the South African colonies, are of one mind on this point. They are unanimous that there shall be no foreign interference between us and a State dependent on us. They are resolved to vindicate this principle at any moment and at all risks. They take little account of the wild words used by a Dutch politician "on the make," like Mr. Esselen, though they cannot but regret the tendency of such language to stir up evil passions where it is uttered. But they are the paramount Power in South Africa, and they will suffer no challenge of their position as such.

By some accident the *Economist* has failed to reach us, and we therefore take our Money Market note from the *Investors' Review* of the 27th of May :—

The money market has weakened with a vengeance in the past seven days. Not only has the Bank of England failed to make arrangements to control the Japanese funds, but a large proportion of these funds have been lent directly to the market, and this fact, coupled with the continued influx of gold, has quite conquered the unwillingness of brokers and bankers to reduce rates. Each day has seen greater competition to find employment for funds in the market, and this ease, capped by the reduction in the Bank rate to 3½ per cent, has sent the quotation for day-to-day loans down to 2 per cent, as against 2½ to 3 per cent a week ago. Loans for a week are now quoted at 2¼ per cent, and the India Council lends with difficulty, until the 3rd of June, at 2½ per cent. Upon the reduction in the official minimum, the discount houses brought down their allowance for deposits by ½ per cent to 2 per cent for "call," and 2¼ for "notice" money. The joint stock banks, of course, will now allow 2 per cent on deposits.

Discount quotations have naturally fallen more severely than rates for short loans, as they had been relatively so much higher. Political misgivings were felt to have been overdone, especially in the shape of Mr. Chamberlain's speech, and when it was found that the American exchange rose rather than fell back, the market had perforce to pay attention to the heavy addition to its resources represented by the inflow of gold. In the past seven weeks quite 7½ millions of the metal have come in, which more than obliterates the effect of the recent shipments to New York. The action of the Bank of England in reducing its rate yesterday from

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4 to 3½ per cent was long forestalled by the market, which bid actively for bills throughout the week. Under this influence, the discount rate for three months' remitted paper, which a week ago was 3½ per cent fell rapidly to 2¼ and then to 2⅜ per cent at which point it is not particularly firm. Foreign exchanges have necessarily moved against this country as a result of this decline, but the fall in their case has not been rapid, and so far there is no sign of the renewal of a gold demand for the Continent. The only quarter for which gold is wanted is India, and, as usual, this want is so moderate that it can hardly be said to be felt. The Bank of England has therefore reduced its buying price of Japanese *yen* to 76s. 4½d., but, so far, has made no further change in its price for other foreign coins.

In his first leading article, headed "A Falling Money Market," Mr. Wilson warns his readers not to be too confident of the continuance of cheap money. "The market meanwhile," he says," is only haunted by one dread, and that arises from the project of the Indian Government to borrow £20,000,000 in gold for the purpose of establishing a gold standard in India. We fancy this danger also is not immediate, although it is by no means wholly averted." There is an article that should be read, headed "Farewell Words on Mr. Gladstone," from which we take the following :—

Last week we said a few words about Mr. Gladstone's influence in foreign politics, and now pause only to ask, could any possible testimony to his success in the highest field of such politics be greater than that afforded by the manner in which other nations join with us in tributes to his memory—in mourning his departure. If it be a nobler deed to unite nations in friendship than to part them in jealousy and strife, then are Mr. Gladstone's achievements to be ranked among the greatest of this or any age. To no small extent, perhaps, his personal character accounts for the accord of nations now in speaking well of his memory, but we cannot help thinking also that the long series of brilliant financial reforms, which, begun by Sir Robert Peel, were carried so far to completion by Mr. Gladstone that the path of every Chancellor of the Exchequer who followed him has been defined beforehand, give the true explanation of his power for good—his influence in promoting peace abroad in past years.

There can be no question that the liberation of our trade, a liberation effected chiefly by Mr. Gladstone's measures, opened the way for that increasing intercourse between ourselves and other nations which, leading as it does to a closer interlinking of interests, causes enmity and prejudices to disappear and friendship to take their place. Thanks to the Budgets of 1853, and 1861, '62, and '63, more than to any performances of diplomacy proper, the day approaches, we may hope, when a war between us and any civilised people will be impossible — a crime too fratricidal and ruinous to be committed on any pretext. We say this and hope this, all the fashion of the hour for playing at war and costly provisions for strife notwithstanding. They are but the fevered protests of a dying barbarity.

There is another very readable article, particularly interesting after what has happened since it was written, headed "Hooley Finance," in which the facts of the celebrated Grappler Company case are set forth. There are some excellent Economic and Financial Notes, in one of which Mr. Wilson shows what may possibly follow Lord Windsor's suggestion that England should guarantee Mr. Rhodes's proposed railway from Buluwayo to Lake Tanganyika :—

We can imagine something of this sort coming before us, and being advocated in Parliament and on the platform by the ever-zealous Secretary of State for the Colonies, whose son is deputy chairman of the Bank of Africa, and therefore interested in the development of one at least of our amazing empires there: guarantees, for a loan to import elephants so as to obtain ivory, to be exported on the mid-rib African railway, the native supply being exhausted; for a loan to enable chiefs and kings of the black tribes, scattered throughout the territory served by this railway, to pay their fares to visit each other in order to swear blood-brotherhood in the interests of peace; for a loan to provide capital to "natives" so that they may buy clothes, in furtherance of decency after the English model, which clothes would be imported from Cape Town or Port Elizabeth by this railway; for a "temporary advance" to pay for poles and fresh wiring for Mr. Rhodes' "Cape Town to Cairo" telegraph, the old poles having been eaten by the white ants and the wire stolen for ornaments by the unlettered savages; for a loan to provide funds to enable congratulatory messages at so much per word to be sent between Cape Town and Cairo, and for other purposes, in order to enable the telegraph company to show a "net" revenue; for a loan to pay for imported black labour from the Sandwich Islands or other places where such can be found, the native supply having "given out" through exhaustion or emigration into the territories in Africa occupied by Germany, Portugal, France, or Belgium; for a loan to enable settlers to buy new cattle—which would be, like the new blacks, imported at profitable rates over the railway—to replace their old stock, all eaten up or worked out; for a loan to subsidise a company to be formed to exploit the glaciers of Ruwenzori and Mount Kenya, in order that the ice might be sent by the railway to Cape Town for export to England, so that we might always have plenty of pure ice for our "Schweppes"; for money to be expended on "barrages," so that all rivers, especially those in the Nile watershed, might be dammed up at convenient places to establish a storage of water, rendered necessary by the depletion of the aforsaid glaciers; for a loan to enable banks to pay dividends on their capital, all locked up in unrealisable securities, such as advances to mines without ore, to farmers without crops, to graziers minus cattle; and finally, for a loan to provide the means whereby mine companies might buy ore abroad to be brought over the railway, and crushed at mills unable to obtain any ore on the spot worth crushing. These are but a few of the demands we may expect to see sprung upon us as time goes on, in consequence of the zeal Rhodesians exhibit in the development of their African dominion, present and prospective, with money drawn from our pockets.

A note in the *Saturday Review* says :—

In her anxiety to safeguard her interests in the north of China, Great Britain would appear to run some risk of overlooking her preponderant opportunities in the south. That, at least, is the moral of the remarks made by Mr. W. F. Wenyon, Sir William Robinson, Mr. Colquhoun, and others at the Colonial Institute on Tuesday. Mr. Wenyon, fresh from Hongkong, was able to indicate not only the progress made by that Imperial emporium, but the opportunities which await enterprise, and which France and Germany are making strenuous efforts to seize. It is rather startling to learn that British trade in this particular part of the Chinese littoral is being developed by means of French shipping. The subsidies paid by France to her shipping companies are gradually securing for them a proportion of British business which is eminently unsatisfactory and disquieting. France, apparently, is actively strengthening her position in the south with a view to challenging the British lead, and some day we may expect to hear that she has found an excuse for seizing Leichou. If Leichou were in French hands and were made a free port, Mr. Wenyon is convinced the prosperity of Hongkong would be in danger. What the British Government and the British people have to remember is that, great as are our interests in China to-day, they are exceedingly small when placed beside the potentialities of the future. If the waterways were properly opened up and the untold mineral resources within easy reach of Hongkong were exploited, Hongkong would now be but at the beginning of a flourising career. At present we seem to be doing little more than pave the way for our rivals.

The first leading article in the *Saturday* in headed "Mr. Krüger, Mr. Chamberlain, and the *Saturday Review*," and in it the *Saturday* shows that in the Convention with the Transvaal drawn up by Lord Rosmead in 1884, "the meaning 'suzerainty' was withdrawn, and the word left out purposely." There is a very good article on "Mr. Gladstone as a Parliamentarian" by Ernest Beckett, Conservative M.P. for Whitby, the concluding paragraph of which is :—

No statesman in English history has ever met in debate so many minds of the highest calibre, no one of them has had his intellectual powers and resources so tried and tested by conflict with men of such varied and immense aptitudes and capacities; and no one can say that in any encounter he was worsted individually, and appeared the lesser man of the two. In losing Mr. Gladstone the House of Commons lost not only its greatest ornament, but the man who to its infinite advantage held up to it the mirror of an earlier and greater time, and was in himself with Pitt and Peel the most finished and perfect pattern of a Parliamentary statesman to be found in the annals of our history. It is curious that not many years ago he said that the days for a Parliamentary career were over.

The two following notes are from the *Spectator* :—

The American comments on the Anglo-Saxon Alliance portion of Mr. Chamberlain's speech are extremely significant. Taken as a whole, the American Press has responded in the best possible tone to the notion of a close understanding between the two branches of our race. The *Herald*, which usually has French sympathies, gives strong expression to the present state of American opinion in regard to England and the Continent. Its utterance is thus summarised by the correspondent of the *Times*:—"France is bitter against us and sought to unite Europe against us. Then suddenly, Mr. Chamberlain warned the world that English good-will to America might take shape in an alliance. Forthwith the *Débats* and other journals discovered that something might be said for the United States, and, at any rate, American dollars, always convenient to Paris, seemed likely to remain in American pockets" As we have said elsewhere, no one, either here or in America, wishes to rush off-hand into a formal alliance. It is quite enough to have realised that in the last resort the two peoples mean to stand or fall together.

The *Times* of Thursday gives a most interesting account of a letter written to the *Gaulois* by Admiral Dupont on the French and English Navies. Is the French Navy, he asks, ready for an eventual struggle with the English Navy? "As regards the number of ships now available, as regards facility of concentration of forces, the judicious choice and the preparedness of naval bases, our inferiority," says Admiral Dupont, "is notorious." Since the application of the Naval Defence Act the English have doubled their resources. They have been able to launch within a single year as many as five battleships of from 12,000 to 15,000 tons, eight large cruisers, and twenty-two smaller vessels. "England can now put into line thirty-four battleships of from 9,000 to 15,000 tons, fifty-two large cruisers, and a very large number of smaller vessels, among which should be noted a numerous flotilla of very rapid torpedo-boat destroyers. Besides these vessels, twenty older battleships, for the most part remodelled, may be reckoned as a solid reserve to this already formidable force." What has France, asks the Admiral, to set against this array? "Sixteen new battleships, eight good coast defence vessels, about ten old battleships of mediocre value, and twenty-three modern cruisers." That means, he holds, that the strength of the French Navy is only between a third and a half of that of England. Curiously enough, the Admiral thinks our reserve supply of men is more—not, as we think, less—efficient than the French.

The *Spectator's* first leading article is on "the greatest Englishman of this generation," Mr. Gladstone. The writer says that he has never been one of Mr. Gladstone's personal following, "but in the long watch of thirty years he has never doubted that the statesman who died on Thursday was a great man, head and shoulders above his fellows, one of the

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figures which stand out in history." He owed his greatness to a rare combination of gifts. First, he was a matchless orator:—

His second quality was practicalness. He was a Lowland Scot on one side, though a Highlander on the other, and probably the greatest financier that ever lived, with a further reach in the arithmetical grasp of his mind than even Sir Robert Peel. His knowledge upon this subject seemed boundless, and astounded even the pundits of Somerset House. The writer remembers saying to him one day that the ancient habit of the great of amassing silver had almost died away, and was instantly drowned in a flood of evidence that it had materially increased. It really seemed as if Mr. Gladstone knew the contents of the *armoires* of every great house in England ever since the Revolution. He knew every detail of the complicated Irish Land Acts so well that a man who knew them fairly said that no one in the House understood them thoroughly except Mr. Gladstone and Tim Healy. The third quality was his courage. It may be questioned if he knew what fear was. Attack, whether from opponent or from mob, had no effect on him except to call into his eyes a menacing glint which daunted very bold ruffians—the writer was within a yard of him once in a crowd which seemed to want his life—and very proud men, and the fearlessness extended to international affairs. He cared nothing, we have been told by men who knew, for the opposition of single Powers. He was, in truth, a haughtily fearless man, ready to face France, or Mr. Disraeli, or a mob, or we must add, recalcitrant colleagues, with a boldness which had for its root-cause something of disdain. Disdain, indeed, was in the very fibre of his intellect, disdain for all that was low, or crafty, or timid, disdain also for all who could not see the arguments he himself considered so irresistible.

It was, however, the fourth quality, his reverence for the moral side of every question, which gave Mr. Gladstone his final hold upon the affections of his countrymen, and made him, a Churchman to the bone, the idol of Nonconformists. He was, in fact, that character once so rare, now so common, a High Church Puritan, and the British people, always Puritan at heart, believed in him in consequence. He held with a strength of conviction which admitted of no change that the moral law was the supreme guide, and though he never paraded piety, he never hesitated to express and act on his convictions. Once they nearly cost him his hold upon the people, and once they did cost him it.

In the article on "Mr. Chamberlain and Russia" the *Spectator* asserts that it would be better to let Russia take all China than to go to war with her, for after all Russia would want our aid to develop China, and "to begin the new century with another hunting of the Snark, in the shape of defending the integrity and independence of a rotten and indefensible Empire. would be the height of folly." Then comes the article on "The Anglo-Saxon Alliance," in which the *Spectator* argues in favour of an alliance "for mutual defence, and for fellowship in guarding the highest ideals of life." The *Spectator* is in favour of allowing the Prime Minister to speak in both Houses of Parliament; undaunted by Lord Salisbury's silly statement: "I think you will conclude that . . . you never can pronounce that four hundred millions of men who, whatever else they are, are the bravest of the brave, and fear death less than any race we know of, could ever be absolutely prostrate," the *Spectator* holds that "China, in fact, is dead, and the corpse will, within no long period, be divided among the eagles, or rather vultures, who are gathering together."

The *World's* leading article on Mr. Gladstone bears tribute to his perfect honesty. "Whatever judgment may be passed on his methods, he certainly believed that by adopting them he was rendering the truest service in his power to his country; and he was probably right." There is an excellent "Radical appreciation" of Mr. Gladstone in *Truth*, while "Marmaduke," the whole of whose letter is well worth reading, says:—

On all sides astonishment is being expressed at the universality and the magnitude of the outburst to do honour to the memory of the late Mr. Gladstone. It has arisen like a monstrous tidal wave, sweeping everything before it; even the Conservative Press, not to be overwhelmed, has ridden on the very crest. Conservative politicians will soon realise that the events of the past week have materially altered the condition of things. The people are educated, and they will inevitably observe and compare. They will say for instance: "This man, you told us, was ruining his country. You said that he was not to be relied upon; that he was unscrupulous; that he was 'An old Parliamentary hand; that he was immeasurably inferior to his former rival, Benjamin Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield. Some of you even hinted that he exerted a pernicious influence over his countrymen. Were all these assertions false? If they were not, how are we to account for the praises of his character and career which come pouring in from every land; from most of the Royal rulers and statesmen; which are sounded by you yourselves, and are published in your own newspapers? Have you been deceiving us for your own purposes, or are you deceiving us now?"

It is very noticeable that the calumny which was heard so often while he was alive, that Mr. Gladstone basely deserted Gordon, is never even mentioned now; probably because it is known who were really responsible for Lord Wolseley's slowness in coming to Gordon's rescue.

The *Graphic* and the *Illustrated* each publish special Gladstone numbers. Mr. Massingham's memoir in the latter is a very fine compilation, but the life-size presentation portrait, printed in oils, is not first-rate. The *Graphic's* (anonymous) memoir is full of information, and is very amply and well illustrated, while there is an excellent reproduction in colours of Sydney P. Hall's picture of "Mr. Gladstone Reading the Lessons in Hawarden Church." The *Westminster Budget's* is a very good Gladstone Memorial Number, with many special and excellent illustrations; and Sir John Tenniel has a fine cartoon in *Punch* of the shade of the Grand Old Man passing away from weeping Britannia.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

古今姓氏族譜

A Chinese Biographical Dictionary. By Herbert A. Giles, LL.D., Professor of Chinese in the University of Cambridge, and late H.B.M. Consul at Ningpo. Fascicule II. London, Bernard Quaritch. Shanghai: Kelly & Walsh, Ld. 1898.

The first volume of this work—called by its author a 'Fascicule'—appeared last autumn with no Preface or Introduction of any kind. The division into two parts seems to have been made merely for the purpose of getting the book before the public so much the sooner, as the second part begins in the middle of a sentence on page 497, preceded by a few pages of Index to Proper Names and other terms for which no characters are given. The whole work embraces 1,022 pages, of which the last three or four are devoted to addenda and corrections, preceded by forty pages of Index to Literary Names, Sobriquets, Canonisations, and Persons whose names are only mentioned in the body of the work.

The total number of Articles is 2,579, of which 1,288 are comprised in the first part. As these 2,579 notices are distributed through 979 pages, it is evident that the average space devoted to each one must be very small, varying from two lines up to the four pages assigned to H.E. Li Hung-chang.

Mr. Giles or Professor Giles, as we ought now to style him, makes a very brief reference to Mr. Mayers' *Chinese Reader's Manual*, published almost a quarter of a century ago, remarking that: "For many years his work held the field, until at length a feeling arose that something more comprehensive was wanted to meet the slow but sure development of Anglo-Chinese scholarship. Accordingly, in 1891 this dictionary was planned, and has since been carried out." In the Preface to Mayers' *Manual* the author informed us that twenty volumes of the largest size would not suffice for the wants of a complete Chinese Biographical Dictionary. But a "complete Chinese Biographical Dictionary" no mortal wants, and would not buy were it provided. What is wanted, however, is such a judicious selection from the vast field of Chinese literature, historical, biographical, fabulous, and mythological, as shall give the reader the needed cue, without being obliged to cross-examine whole platoons of Chinese Teachers, as to the real origin and significance of the name in question. Probably no two readers would have the same ideas and ideals in the compilation of such a work as this, for each would be affected by "the Bias of Class," and would demand fuller treatment for the line of subjects in which he is especially interested. A somewhat cursory examination of these volumes would seem to indicate that the names which the average reader would expect to find noted, are found, yet often without those illuminating notes which it would have been useful to have incorporated, especially under the titles of those who by various and sometimes devious processes have come to be regarded as national divinities. The number of the more prominent of such is very much smaller than is usually supposed, but trustworthy information into their antecedents is frequently unattainable. The author has wisely decided to give prominence to the names of those who figure in the recent history of China, especially within the last generation. In this second volume there are perhaps forty such, many of them of great importance, and others of interest to residents in China, by reason of the position which these persons occupy for a time. Such are Ministers to Western Countries, Generals who figured in the Chinese-Japanese War, and the like. Mr. Tong King-sing here called "T'ang T'ing-shu" is one of a class to whom a little space seems always to be given. Dr. Giles has also wisely departed from the plan of Mr. Mayers by including the Emperors among those described, although the page devoted to H.I.M. Kuang Hsü, for example, consists mainly of a sketch of events occurring during his reign, there being naturally nothing else to record. Among these contemporary worthies we do not, however, find the name of Wang Wên-shao, the recent Governor-General of Chihli, but this is fully atoned for by the insertion of "Tz'u-an-tuan-yü-k'ang-ch'ing-chao-ho-chuang-ching, Huang T'ai-hou," as well as "Tz'u-hsi-tuan-yu-k'ang-hsi-chao-yü-chuang-ch'eng-shou-kung-ch'in-hsien-ch'ung-hsi, Huang T'ai-hou," whom the most careless reader will promptly recognise as the late Eastern Empress Dowager, and the Western Empress Dowager who still lives to exert a powerful, albeit somewhat mysterious, influence upon Chinese affairs of State.

The only test of a work like this is use, but the name of the author is a sufficient guarantee that it is scholarly. It is understood that a large amount of material collected by Mr. Mayers was placed at Mr. Giles' disposal, but, if this was the case, he has forgotten to mention it.

We advise those who wish information at hand upon any of the wide range of

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topics here treated, to provide themselves with this useful *vade mecum*, which will undoubtedly "hold the field" for a long time to come.

The Mutineer: a Romance of Pitcairn Island. By Louis Becke and Walter Jeffery. 8vo. 298 pp. Unwin's Colonial Library. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1898.

The word "mutineer" has a peculiarly ugly sound, and an author must entirely convince his readers that the revolt against tyranny was justified before he can hope to enlist sympathy for a hero who has earned such a detestable title. The mutiny on board H.M.S. *Bounty*, which resulted in the foundation of the strange colony on Pitcairn's Island, is a well-known story, and we are inclined to think that the authors have taken no great liberties with the facts. The picture drawn of Captain Bligh's overbearing temper and harshness, which the reader might perhaps think purposely exaggerated in order to make some excuse for the ringleaders of the mutiny, is apparently accurate. It is strange that an officer who had early gained a high reputation as a skilful seaman, should have so signally failed to maintain discipline among his men, especially when it is remembered that he displayed extraordinary qualities during the long journey of nearly 4,000 miles in an open boat, after being cast off by the mutineers with eighteen of his men. But his subsequent rule as Governor of New South Wales proved so unbearable that he was arrested by the colonists and kept in prison for two years. Notwithstanding this unfortunate record he was made an admiral.

The complex character of Christian, the ring'eader of the mutineers, is well drawn, and his increasing depression gradually deteriorating into moroseness is cleverly described. Those who have read previous books by Louis Becke will be prepared for delightful sketches of the South Sea Islands and their interesting inhabitants. The contrast between the Tahitians, who accompanied the mutineers to Pitcairn's Island, and their white companions is extremely unfavourable to the latter. There seems some doubt as to what actually occurred on the island, but it is certain that at the end of ten years, in which the whites and browns seem to have been engaged in mutual massacres, one white man was left alone with eight or nine women and several children. It is curious that the descendants of such ancestors, all of whom were doomed to be hanged had they been discovered, should have become a community noted for their high standard of virtue and general uprightness; though it may be that, as described in the book, the last survivor Smith, or as he afterwards called himself Adams, was the best man in the gang, led into the mutiny by his sympathy for Christian's treatment by the captain. The story is told in a very graphic and convincing manner, and is full of incidents. It is needless to say that the style is admirable and that everything touching upon native ways and thought is touched in with a sympathetic pencil. We can safely prophesy that the book will be popular, and will, if possible, add to the reputation of Mr. Becke and create an interest in his coadjutor.

TO THE DEAF!

A rich lady cured of her deafness and noises in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums sent £1000 to his Institute so that Deaf Persons who have not the means to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply by letter to C. O. BRIGHT, Secretary, 54, Bow Lane, London, E. C.

13ja-99 220 14th Jan., 1898.

Outports.

CHANGSHU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DISEASE

For the past few weeks this district, particularly inside the city, has been visited by a fever amounting almost to an epidemic, so enormous has been the death rate. The disease is characterised by a sudden rise of temperature which continues seven days with no intermission, when it ends by a crisis—usually fatal. When death is not the result, blindness or deafness seem to be the distressing but inevitable sequel. In one stricken family near us the husband lost his sight, his wife died, and a brother lost his hearing. We can learn very little about the exact nature of this disease, since we have not been called to attend a case; for this reason we are unable to make a diagnosis, though from all we can learn it is one that is not in the "books." We have it from good authority that the sale of coffins reaches as high as eighty and ninety a day. The people stand in helpless terror before this deadly foe, which sweeps though whole families with fearful impartiality.

AND FAMINE.

While disease is thinning the ranks of the people famine plays no small part in the strife for existence which exists among the poor of our city. Vast number of beggars crowd the streets pleading for something to help keep soul and body together. In spite of the dire need of the poorer classes, however, only one raid has been made on the rice shops and this was only a small outbreak—the distant muttering foretelling the coming storm. The wealthy men of the city distribute cooked rice morning and evening to the women who are able to come and receive it. Every day many hundreds of women and children are fed in this way.

CONTRAST.

While the distressing cry of poverty, famine, and death is constantly in our ears, like a running accompaniment comes the sound of revelry and feasting from among the wealthy classes. A very near neighbour of ours, a man of untold wealth, has imported for a week or two a Shanghai theatrical troup consisting of one hundred men, including forty boys; this at a cost of a hundred or so dollars a day. Night after night he gathers his friends around him when the fun grows fast and furious until exhausted nature demands a reprieve.

THE CITY IS WILD

over the study of English. Three schools are flourishing and there is a daily increase in the number of those who apply for admittance.

WENG TUNG-HO,

President of the Board of Revenue, who was lately degraded on the charge of treason, is a native of this city. His family feel keenly the humiliation that has come upon him in his old age and after years of faithful service.

25th June.

"For the Blood is the Life."—If the blood is laden with impurities it spreads disease as it circulates through the organs of the human body—Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Kidneys, Brain. Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations and substitute

HANKOW.

Messrs. William White & Co. report in their circular of the 30th ult.:—

Reported tea settlements for the week amount to 32,039 ½-chests, consisting of:—Ningchow Tls. 14 *a* 30, 5¾d. *a* 10d. per lb., Oonam Tls. 9 *a* 33, 4½d. *a* 10¾, Oopack Tls. 13.75 *a* 25, 5¾d. *a* 8¾d.

The settlements not yet reported amount to 18,500 ½-chests, that reducing available stock to a small compass.

A strong demand has existed for "tea for price," and purchases were made directly the cargo arrived at advancing prices for all grades from Tls. 13 *a* 18 per picul. Russian buyers continued to be almost the only operators, and their wants are apparently largely unsatisfied. The prices ruling must be extremely remunerative to the natives.

The market closes firm and active.

Export to England, is estimated at 5,600,000 lbs.

Exports same date last year actual 7,525,297 lbs.

Freight.—For London 52/6 per ton. The *Orel* (s) is loading for Odessa at 42/6 per ton.

Exchange.—2/8½ for 4 months' paper.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PERSONAL.

There have been several changes in the local customs lately. Mr. E. Ohlmer, a well-known Commissioner, relieves acting Commissioner Parr, the latter taking charge of the likin. Mr. Nightingale, formerly of Ichang, rejoins us as an assistant to Mr. Parr. Mr. Cross, a young gentleman recently in the Chungking Customs, passed through *en route* for Canton. Dr. and Mrs. Woolsey also of Chungking stopped with us a few days before leaving for Kuling, where they will spend a few months. The Rev. Mr. Kearney and Dr. Rankine of the Church of Scotland mission have just returned from a trip to Itu, where they have recently opened a chapel and stationed an evangelist. They report everything quiet, and that the trip was quite a success. The preaching services were well attended and the Doctor found all his available time occupied treating the sick. The plan is to make frequent visits there in the future.

THE PREFECTURAL EXAMINATIONS

have been in progress for some time but so quiet have the students been that their presence has hardly been noticed in the community. It will be remembered that quite a disturbance took place three years ago when they were here and some apprehension was felt this time, especially after the Shasi affair, but all were agreeably disappointed.

SHASI.

Reports from Shasi say that the local authorities are very active in investigating the recent disturbances and that no fewer than six persons have been beheaded. It is to be hoped that only the guilty ones have suffered.

THE VICEROY Yü LU,

who was on his way to Szechuan was stopped by a telegram ordering him back to Peking. He and his brother Yü Chang, the Provincial Treasurer of the same province, met here, the latter coming down by native boat the former by the *Kweilee*. They both proceed to Peking, returning on the same steamer that brought the former.

MR. GEMMELL

is off for a three months' trip into Hunan He hopes to go from here to Changteh, then by river through to Kueichou, thence across to Hêngchou, and back *viâ* the Siang river. One of the native Hunan evangelists will accompany him.

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H.M.S. "ESK"

left for Hankow on the 21st inst. We trust that her going may be for a short time only as we miss the genial officers and crew and our river front does not seem quite natural when she is not to be seen.

A REAL LOSS.

The community suffers a real loss when it says good-bye to Mr. and Mrs. Lovatt as it will have to do before this reaches you. They are people who have the happy faculty of making themselves agreeable to everybody they come in contact with. Mr. Lovatt will not only be missed in his office but in the various outside functions that belong to the port that make life less monotonous than it would otherwise be. We remember Mrs. Lovatt as one who always did the nice thing at the right time, whether, in an anti-footbinding meeting, in the sick chamber, or elsewhere. They always found the latch string "on the outside" wherever they called and years will not make it otherwise with those who know them. They will take a four months' vacation after which Canton will be their home.

SOMETHING NECESSARY.

We understand that efforts are being made to station a guard of British soldiers here for the purpose of looking after the safety of the community. The *Esk* cannot safely anchor in the strong current and consequently must leave during the time of high water, but such a guard could perhaps do all that is necessary and be with us all the time. There are technical, but no moral reasons why such a body of men could not be stationed here. Why should it make any difference whether soldiers are quartered in the middle of the river or on the bank? Of course, the whole idea is to help the Chinese do what they alone should do, *i.e.* prevent riots.

A SAD CASUALTY OCCURRED

on the 22nd instant. While the *Changwo* was anchoring, a sampan in which were three natives who were hurrying to get alongside, ran afoul the anchor chain which, aided by the strong current, upset the boat. Two of the men were almost immediately taken under but one managed to swim until he was picked up.

A NEW MAGISTRATE.

Ichang has been very unfortunate in having numerous changes of magistrates, a dozen or more having occurred during the past three years. It is said that the present incumbent is a very clever man who seems to want to do his duty. It is to be hoped that such is the case and that he may find it possible to make a protracted stay.

21st June.

WEIHAIWEI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE RECENT LOOTING CASE.

The *Victorious* has joined the ships lying in the harbour. She returned on the 17th inst. On that day several of the British officials came off the ships and, headed by a band and escorted by a few marines and bluejackets, they entered the city and had a conference with the Chinese officials *re* the incident of the stealing of the materials of the barracks. The headmen of the villages around had been summoned and they begged for pardon and signed a paper promising that nothing of the sort should again occur. I understand that a formal notice was read in the hearing of all those present, and translated sentence by sentence, to the effect that the English were here by arrangement with the Emperor, that they were now masters and intended to act up to that character.

ONE SOURCE OF MISUNDERSTANDING

has been that up to date no public announcement has been made that the place and district had been passed over to the English. This is a serious oversight on the part of some one and should be speedily attended to. The announcement must be clear and intelligible and be issued by the proper Chinese authority—the Taotai or Governor. If something of this sort is not done, it will take months and years for the people to look upon the English as anything but interlopers and thieves. Even intelligent men in Weihaiwei itself think *and say*: "Oh, these English will only stay here for a short time. They intend to get the money for the buildings that are being pulled down, then they will up with their anchors and steam away not to return." Such is the popular belief here at present, absurd as it sounds to us. But in time they will probably learn that the English have come to stay.

A DISPLAY OF FORCE.

On the 18th there was quite a demonstration on the mainland. From the ships in the bay some eight hundred blue-jackets were landed. They carried rifles with bayonets fixed and had two field guns among them, and headed by the brass band of the *Centurion* they spent the day marching through Weihaiwei and surrounding villages. They made an imposing sight. The object as I understand, was a beneficent one: they wished to overawe the people so that later when other buildings were being pulled down there would be no necessity to use violence to restrain the mob. One pitied officers and men, for the weather was exceptionally hot, the trying heat that precedes a thunderstorm. I hear that several men fell out of the ranks through heat prostration.

THE EVER PRESENT.

Already it has been found necessary to select a piece of ground on Liukungtao as a Cemetery. On the 15th inst. Dr. Macaulay of the *Centurion* died rather suddenly and on the following day he was buried. Two French priests came down from Chefoo on a torpedo-boat destroyer for the very brief service at the grave.

PIRACY.

Within the past few days your correspondent has been in the country some few miles to the east of Weihaiwei. He there heard of a case of piracy which was said to have shortly before taken place in the vicinity. The men who did the act belong to a small island called Kinungtao, about seventy *li* to the east of Weihaiwei. The boat attacked was a small Japanese junk. Everything of value was taken, though no one was injured. My informants said that the Japanese Consul with a few soldiers (I presume from Chefoo) had arrived at the place to look into the matter, and during the enquiry no one was allowed to leave the island. Probably there is some truth in the story, but just how much one does not know. It may complicate matters a little, for I have it on good authority that

THE "NEUTRAL ZONE"

extends as far as 121°40' east longitude. It includes Wênteng and Yungcheng *hsiens*, a part of Ninghaichou and part of another *hsien*—perhaps six to eight hundred square miles in all. If the "neutral zone" means what it did in the case of the Japanese, then Chinese troops will not be permitted to locate in this district, and it certainly will prevent the hoisting of another flag on any part of the Promontory, the latter probably being the point aimed at, as I understand England claims suzerainty over that district. One would expect that, with the above limitation, matters will proceed as before, under Chinese magistrates. Yet some active intervention may be found necessary as time goes on.

23rd June.

WÊNCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THREE HEADS FELL

yesterday morning, and others are to follow. That makes six deaths altogether. And others are wishing themselves dead. One poor lad of 15 or so has I hear been cruelly tortured and refuses to confess that he was there. There is considerable feeling amongst the people against the prefect on account of his harshness to this youth and others The tender mercies of the heathen Chinese are devilish. It is too ghastly to hear of the tortures employed in this weary country; almost rivalling the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition for which that country is paying the debt to-day and will have more to pay yet.

ARRIVAL OF RICE.

The Chêkiang Admiral's ship the *Ch'ao-wu* arrived last week, without the machine guns but with something vastly more riot-quelling, 2,500 piculs of rice. So the gunboat and the rice did arrive together after all, as we prophesied; though earlier than and in somewhat different fashion from the way we prophesied.

THE CONSUL HONOURED.

Though somewhat late in the day we think it a duty to chronicle a presentation made some little time ago to an esteemed Consul, Mr. Ayrton. It was made by the native Iron-dealers of Wênchow in acknowledgment of Mr. Ayrton's aid in resisting illegal and oppressive likin, which the powers that were thought they could squeeze with impunity. Mr. Ayrton in the interests of foreign trade as well as for the sake of the local dealers took up the case and carried it to a successful issue, hence this very handsome silk scroll describing him as the protector of Chinese as well as foreigners.

29th June.

NOTES FROM THE SOUTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE WEATHER.

What Mr. Mantalini would with much accuracy describe as "dem'd moist unpleasant weather" has prevailed throughout the week. Rain has fallen more or less every day, and mainly less, the sun appearing at intervals to render it muggy and intolerable. In short we have lived in a climate greatly resembling a vapour bath, and about equally cheerful and inspiriting. The reservoirs are still capable of accommodating a great deal more water, and our rainfall is far below the average for this time of the year.

AMUSEMENTS.

These have been scarce enough of late, the weather having been equally unpropitious for golfing, bicycling, croquet, or other out-door sports. Even swimming parties have not been so frequent. This afternoon, if the weather keeps up—it is fine at the moment of writing—the Gymkhana will afford some chance of a break in the monotony. The programme is a good one, and contains some new features.

THE PLAGUE EPIDEMIC

is now, I trust, a thing of the past, though unfortunately, while the breeding grounds remain in the slums of Taipingshan, Seyingpoon, and Wanchai, we are still liable to a sudden recrudescence. The official returns meantime show that it is now well-nigh extinct. They are for the past week:—

		Cases.	*Deaths.*
18th June	.....	1	1
19th „	.....	1	1
20th „	.....	3	2
21st „	.....	*nil*	1
22nd „	.....	2	2
23rd „	.....	*nil*	*nil*
24th „	.....	1	2
		8	9

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It is to be hoped that a clean sheet may be given next week, and perhaps the quarantine enforced against us may then be raised.

THE EXTENSION OF THE COLONY'S BOUNDARIES.

Nothing further has been heard officially on this head, but I believe there is some point still unsettled which holds back the official proclamation. A rumour was current the other day that the area leased was nearer 500 than 200 square miles as first announced by Reuter, but I take leave to doubt the correctness of this report. It would be interesting, of course, to know when possession is to be taken, what will be the terms, etc., etc. But the great thing is to know that the cession has been arranged. I hear, by the way, that the lease is for ninety-nine years.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LD.

The report to be presented at the yearly meeting of shareholders, fixed for the 5th prox., has been issued. It shows a further satisfactory improvement in the earnings of the Company, the net profits available for distribution, after payment of directors' fees, being $36,124.05. From this sum it is proposed to pay a dividend of 5 per cent on paid-up capital, amounting to $14,886.80, to write $15,000 off for depreciation of plant and $475.10 off furniture account, and to carry forward the balance of $5,762.15 to new account.

THE LUSITANIAN TRAGEDY.

The trial of Joan de Matta Ozorio, a clerk in the employ of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, on the charge of wilfully murdering Francisco Xavier de Jesus on the 9th May, was opened at the Supreme Court on the 21st inst. before the Chief Justice and a special jury. The Attorney-General prosecuted and Mr. Francis, Q. C., appeared for the defence. The counsel for the prosecution having briefly stated his case first called J. M. Xavier, who was living at No. 2 West Terrace at the time of the occurrence and witnessed the shooting of de Jesus, and Miss Glafira Portaria, the prisoner's *fiancée*. In the course of her evidence she stated that the prisoner was very jealous and was constantly asserting that some other person, if not de Jesus, was taking liberties with her and demanding his name. She denied that either de Jesus or any other man had done so, but Ozorio would not be pacified and vowed that before a week was out she would hear of murder and suicide. Even on the night of the murder she had assured him his suspicions were unfounded. On the 22nd inst. Miss Portaria's examination was continued, and she admitted that the prisoner had taken liberties with her frequently for more than a year, but his suspicions about other men were quite unfounded. Several very hysterical letters from the prisoner to this witness were produced and read, and the medical evidence as to the wounds of deceased was taken, also that of a sister of deceased. On the 23rd inst. Mr. Francis opened the case for the defence, and set up a plea of mental irresponsibility on the part of the prisoner. He then called a number of witnesses to prove that at various times they had remarked the uncertain temper and peculiar ways of the prisoner. Drs. Thomson, Atkinson, and Lowson, then gave medical evidence on this point and all expressed the opinion that the prisoner was of sound mind. The proceedings were then adjourned to 9.30 a.m. on the 24th inst., when Mr. Francis addressed the jury in a speech lasting three hours and a-half in which he urged with much eloquence that the prisoner was not in the possession of his right senses when he shot Mr. de Jesus. The Attorney-General replied, submitting that the case was a simple one of murder, and that there was absolutely no evidence to warrant a verdict of not guilty on the ground of insanity. His learned friend had not been able to find a single medical man in the colony to come forward to support his plea. In spite of the eloquence of his learned friend they could, he thought, come to no other conclusion but that this was a case of murder by a jealous young man who was corrupt in his own mind and had corrupted the mind of his *fiancée*. The Chief Justice then summed up, and the jury after a brief retirement for six minutes gave a unanimous verdict of guilty. The prisoner, when asked if he had anything to say, protested that he was not guilty. If he did kill the man he must have lost his head at the time. The Chief Justice then passed sentence of death on the prisoner who was removed.

This is, I believe, the first time, since the foundation of the Colony, that a Portuguese has been sentenced to death for murder here. The Lusitanian community, be it to their credit spoken, are a most law-abiding people, and have always furnished a very small quota to the criminal statistics of the Colony. It is characteristic, perhaps, that many Portuguese residents should have pinned their faith to the learned Q C.'s ability to get Ozorio off. It is not long since that eloquent advocate managed to induce a foolish jury to let off a Chinese who was caught, so-to-speak, red-handed in murdering his wife and packing the remains in a wooden case.

THE HEALTH OF TOMMY ATKINS.

I am unfeignedly glad to see, by Reuter's telegram just in, that the Home Government have decided to sanction the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance in this Colony. The statistics sent home last year by the China Association were enough to convince even the most bigoted fanatics of Exeter Hall that such a precaution is absolutely necessary if a British garrison is to be maintained in the Colony. Whilst the purists are at liberty to do all they can to elevate the British soldier and wean him from grosser pursuits, the Government is in duty bound to protect his health and keep him fit for service.

A RECORD RUN BY A WINDJAMMER.

That British sailing ships can still do fast trips on occasion has just been proved by the four-masted ship *Muskoka* (Capt. Crowe), which arrived here on the 21st inst., with a cargo of coal from Cardiff, which port she left on the 26th of March, thus making the run in 86 days, which has not often, I believe, been surpassed in the days of the tea clippers. The British four-masted ship *Metropolis* also made a good passage out from Cardiff. She left that port four days before the *Muskoka* and arrived here a few hours after her.

NAVAL NOTES.

The warships are now mostly employed in more salubrious climes, and visitors are rare. One dropped in on the 19th inst. in the shape of the fine Japanese cruiser *Akitsushima* from the Pescadores. She left again on the 21st inst. for Manila. On the 20th inst. she took part in the royal salute to celebrate Her Majesty's Accession. The British cruiser *Bonaventure* left here on the 19th inst. for Manila. The British gunboat *Pigmy* left here on the 23rd inst. for Manila. The gunboat *Linnet*, after a prolonged service in southern seas in moist heat, left here on the 23rd inst. for the north, calling at Foochow *en route*. The surveying ship *Waterwitch*, at present in almost sole possession of the anchorage, will leave in a few days for Weihaiwei, on surveying duty, after which she will cruise along the coast in search of sunken rocks and other dangers. The cruiser *Blenheim* left Portsmouth yesterday with a relief crew for the battleship *Barfleur*, which vessel is to replace the *Grafton* as second flagship on this station.

THE PLAGUE AT MACAO

has now practically burnt itself out, and matters in the Holy City flow on as usual, the dread disease no longer scaring people from the place. The mat sheds erected for the accommodation of patients are shortly to be burned, and the desirability of erecting a permanent hospital on the site is being considered.

AT CANTON

the epidemic is also rapidly subsiding, and the people are beginning to feel some confidence and are returning to their deserted homes.

HEAVY RAINS IN KUANGTUNG.

Heavy thunderstorms visited Canton and its vicinity on the 19th inst., accompanied by torrents of rain. An old woman was struck and killed by lighting near the East Gate, and much damage was done to houses, boats, and trees, but on the whole the good wrought by the thorough cleansing of filthy streets outweighs the loss caused. Since that date much more rain has fallen, and all the creeks and rivers are swollen to a full tide, and there is now little ebb in the Canton river, which has overflowed and laid a good deal of the country under water.

PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

Although the West River is open to foreign traffic, little pains are taken by the authorities of the Two Kuang to suppress the piracy that has long been rampant in this and other waterways of South China. On Thursday, the 23rd inst., the pirates had the audacity to stick up the passenger steam-launch *Wah On* running between Macao, Kongmun, and Samshui. The pirates took passage on board, and when the vessel was at a safe distance from Macao they turned up in an armed party of nine, and made the passengers disgorge money and valuables worth some $600, with which they decamped.

Hongkong, 25th June.

MANILA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

READY TO CAPITULATE ON THE SPOT.

No place was ever more at the mercy of a foe than is Manila to the Americans and Insurgents. The former by sea and the latter by land have established a cordon that is drawing closer and tighter each day, until this ancient, proud capital of Spain's pride of the Far East, the Philippines, is humbled almost into complete submission. How different it is to-day from that hour when the venerable Archbishop and the austere Captain-General exhorted the people of the island to all kinds of vengeance on the wicked Americans, and described them as such awful and dangerous creatures that they must all be crushed by the foot of Christian Spain! The chief news of the moment is that *Manila is ready to surrender*. Not that the Archbishop and Captain-General are going to voluntarily capitulate before they are compelled or vigorously advised to do so, but that the backbone of resistance is unquestionably broken, and that upon a real show of force and intention to bombard the town if it does not give in, the Spaniards will haul down the Spanish flag. I have intimations to this effect from so many sources that I am confident future developments will prove that I am not far from the truth. I am not located in Manila, but I am in touch with those who are and who can be believed.

THREATENED TORPEDO ATTACK.

The most exciting feature of the past week was the look out for a torpedo attack upon the American squadron on Tuesday night. The report had reached the Admiral that the Spaniards had dropped two small gunboats down the Pasig to its mouth from above the bridges and equipped them with torpedoes for the purpose of attacking the American men-of-war under cover of night. The Admiral was not to be caught napping, and, although there is great caution every night, an extra effort was made on Tuesday night to keep diligent watch. It was a

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beautiful sight. The search-lights of all the ships were in operation from dusk to dawn, with only short intermissions now and then. I doubt if any torpedo boat of any fleet could have slipped in and landed its missive successfully, or before it would have been riddled with the fire of the smaller guns. If the Spaniards really intended such an attack I could not blame them for being frightened out of it, for the slightest object was visible in every direction. The two boats reported as detailed for this work were the *Cebu* and *Querus*. On Wednesday morning the *Boston*, *Concord*, and *Callao* reconnoitred the entrance to the river, the latter craft saucily running up right under the noses of the Spanish guns, but no such dangerous ships were discovered. It was first stated that they had come out and run to some hiding spot in the upper end of the bay, or gone out to Marivales or Subig, but a gentleman just from Manila states that no such boats have left the river and that the *Cebu* is still anchored at her old position as a sort of protection against possible attacks of insurgents.

GENERAL AGUINALDO

at this writing is not doing quite so much active fighting as a few days ago in the vicinity of Manila, but he is strengthening his lines every day until now he has a large force deployed in strong detachments all around the city, cutting off not only communication with the interior but all opportunities of escape or relief. The latest reports on his campaign show the following

DISPOSITION OF HIS FORCES.

To the North and North-east he has men who are operating from Caloocan, Malabon and San Jose de Navotas. All three of these places were recently captured by the insurgents and now they are working closer in from these points. While attacking some Spaniards in the neighbourhood of Tondo the latter set fire to some native huts, which burned so furiously as to get beyond their control and did much damage to very valuable property. The sight at night as the flames shot up reminded one of the scene after the great naval battle of May 1st. During the skirmish near Tondo a small force of native Spanish guards ran away from the place at which they were stationed and joined the rebels. But such incidents are happening every day. The Spanish officials in Manila all live in fear of their lives, because they know that the large native population at heart sympathises with Aguinaldo, and may revolt in his favour at any hour that is favourable. To the east and south there are more insurgents located, waiting for any opportunity to harass the Spaniards and capturing one place after another that enables them to get nearer to the heart of Manila. A safe estimate would be 6,500 men as the number General Aguinalde has in the field, but he could put 50.000 if he were supplied with arms. Ammunition for his rifles he has in abundance, to the extent of nearly two million rounds of cartridges.

FOUR GOVERNORS CAPTURED.

The Governors of Bataangas and Bulucan have just been captured, together with a considerable number of Spanish soldiers. Before this Aguinaldo had in prison the Governors of Cavite and Bataan. Now, with the most recent additions to his remarkable list of prizes, he has under his control all the provinces around Manila except Pampangas on the north and Manila on the east. All the latter outside the city is in insurgent hands and all of Pampangas except San Fernando, where the Governor is besieged and Angeles, where another small Spanish garrison is completely surrounded. Any day the news may come of the surrender of these two towns. All the Governors are prominent Spaniards, oftentimes Generals in the regular army. It is not difficult to imagine their chagrin and humiliation at capture by a crowd of half-clad, poorly-armed, but earnest natives.

LOOKING AT A MAP

of Manila Bay, one can readily understand what splendid work the natives have done, when the provinces of Bataangas, Cavite, Manila, Bulucan, Pampangas and Bataan are practically in their hands, leaving only the city of Manila and two small villages in the country yet in the hands of the Spaniards. The Governor of Bataangas gave in without a struggle. 500 Spaniards surrendered to 240 insurgents without firing a bullet. The Spanish prisoners themselves confirm the reports of the insurgents.

SOME OF THE MEN

who are helping General Aguinaldo greatly are Senor Leyber, Senor Lagarda, Senor Arevolo, Senor Daniel Tirona, and Baldermo Aguinaldo, a cousin of General Aguinaldo. Senor Tirona is Minister of War, and Baldermo Minister of Finance. The prisons around Cavite are crowded with Spanish soldiers, and every cot in the hospital is taken, but they are all treated most humanely. Many of them are doubtless better off than when in the Spanish service. Colonel Johnson, General Aguinaldo's Chief of Ordnance, who is also quite an authority on hospitals, prisons, etc., used in warfare, says that the Spaniards are far better treated by the insurgents than the Spaniards in the Philippines or elsewhere have ever treated *their* prisoners of war; and he is doubtless right, at least as far as the Philippines are concerned.

THE 12TH OF JUNE

was a great day for the insurgents. They assembled to the number of nearly 10,000 at Old Cavite, where 1,000 troops were drawn up and a stand was erected to hear the reading of Aguinaldo's last proclamation, which amounts to a declaration of independence and a formal announcement of the formation of a provisional government. A band played, speeches were made, a feast was served, flags and bunting were flown to the breeze, and despite the heavy rains a good time was enjoyed by all.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The increase in the number of German and French—especially the former—men-of-war in port is exciting much comment. There are now three German naval vessels here, the *Kaiserin Augusta*, with Vice-Admiral von Diedrichs, the *Irene* and *Cormoran*, two French, the *Bruix* and *Pascal*. The latter arrived on Wednesday. The *Kaiserin Augusta* is a big ship, and it is reported that another large cruiser will soon come. The *Baltimore* went out this morning to meet the *Charleston* and her charges, the troop and supply ships. It is now expected that they will reach here between the 20th and 26th. With the arrival of the *Charleston* and more naval vessels *en route*, Admiral Dewey will soon have a squadron in Philippine waters larger than the United States ever before sent into foreign waters. The *Linnet* came in the other day from the south, and the *Rattler* recently arrived from Hongkong. The *Yuensang* has gone to Amoy with a load of Chinese. Another French cruiser, the *Pascal*, arrived on Wednesday and joined the European fleet off Manila. It is rumoured that in view of the additions to the German and French ships here the British will send another large cruiser to join the *Immortalité*.

GENERAL.

General Aguinaldo states that he now has in all nearly 5 000 Spanish prisoners, of whom 4,000 are regulars. He also declares that all northern Luzon is in the hands of insurgents. 500 more prisoners were brought to Cavite yesterday. At this rate there will be little left of the Spanish army by the time they wish to make the final stand against the combined Americans and insurgents.

Consul Williams, who is always assisting the Admiral as much as possible, is also keeping in touch with what happens both in the Spanish and insurgent lines. He looks for the surrender of Manila without bloodshed.

There is a well-founded rumour that the family of Captain-General Augustine, who were sent into the country before hostilities commenced, have fallen into the hands of the insurgents. If so they are sure of kind treatment, as the rebels are showing the utmost consideration for all prisoners—especially women and children.

It would not be surprising if Manila was in the possession of the United States forces before another letter reaches you.

Manila Bay, 17th June.

The chief subject of discussion in Manila, in Cavite, and in the American fleet is the meaning of the presence of five German men-of-war and one transport or supply vessel in port.

I have just interviewed one of the leading Englishmen here on the subject, and he unhesitatingly informed me that all the foreigners in Manila as well as the Spaniards regarded it as a remarkable demonstration. "I am sure," he continued, "that the Spaniards here received great encouragement from such a naval display. A Spaniard to-day told me that the coming of the large German squadron was construed by him and the leading Spanish officials as a direct act of friendly interest and to warn the Yankees that they could not go too far. Now when a Spaniard of influence, as this man was, will talk like that I think it is high time to ask what the Germans mean by appearing here in such force.

"I am familiar," my informant continued, "with all German interests in Manila, and my relations with Germans are very agreeable, and I am positive that one German cruiser would be fully able to protect them to every extent they required. One of my German friends remarked to me even so far back as when the *Irene* and *Cormoran* came that he did not see why his Government should send more than one such vessel. Even were it granted, now that Germany has undertaken to protect Portuguese subjects, that more vessels were needed, the *Irene* and *Cormoran* would amply suffice, as these people are not taken on the men-of-war if they wish to leave the city, but on merchantmen in the harbour flying the German flag."

When I asked what ought to be done in the matter, he replied, "As an Englishman I would say that we should have two or three more men-of-war sent here at once, and, if Germany lifts her fingers to indicate that she intends to have a say as to the situation or final disposition of the islands in order that she may get part of them or even a port in them, say to her, hands off—aside from all question of American interests I should be tempted to tell the Germans that they must explain at once what they mean by assembling here in such numbers, and I shall be surprised if the Government at Washington does not instruct its Minister at Berlin to demand an explanation. Were I Admiral Dewey I might think differently than I do now, because he probably knows more about it than I do, but otherwise, if I were he, I should gently suggest to the German Admiral that I regarded the massing of five German men-of-war here when the port was practically in the hands of the Americans as a piece of impertinent and unjustified interference.

"Mind you," he said in conclusion, "I am not saying anything against Germans as Germans, but against the methods of a government which if they were those of any other under similar conditions I would criticise most severely. Mark my word, that the presence of the German fleet here bodes some kind of unpleasantness, and it may come sooner than is expected. I hope Captain Chichester, in whom I have great

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confidence, has fully informed our Admiral, and that a British squadron will not be slow in appearing on the scene."

While these remarks are pointed and somewhat severe, they were said to me in good faith by a man of quality and standing, who of course under the circumstances could not permit the use of his name. I am not in a position to express an opinion myself but if what I have heard other men say is any criterion sentiment is very strong among Britishers and Americans against the German display of naval force.

The German warships now here are the *Kaiserin Augusta* (Admiral von Diedrichs), *Kaiser, Princess Wilhelm, Irene,* and *Cormoran,* with one transport bringing supplies for the squadron.

It is reported on good authority that they will be supplemented by the *Deutschland,* with Prince Henry, and the *Gefion.* I think it doubtful if both come, but it would not be surprising if one did. If the Prince actually visits Manila he may bring the *Deutschland,* if she can stand the trip from Shanghai or whatever port she last leaves in good condition.

Speaking of the *Deutschland* reminds me of the *Castilla* of the destroyed Spanish squadron. The only wooden vessel in the battle of Manila Bay was the *Castilla,* 3,342 tons, built at Cadiz in 1881, with an excellent and formidable battery of breach-loading Krupp guns, but with a hull that has done no credit to her builders, as recent events have proved. The war vessel, only sixteen years old, has been towed about as a floating battery simply because the working of her engines has caused her to leak so badly that it has been impossible to send her to sea under steam. I have made a careful examination of the wrecked hull of this vessel, as she lies aground in Cavite Bay burnt to the water's edge. Everything points to "jerry" construction. The whole of the bulwarks and sides are burnt down to below the main deck, leaving a thick row of her iron fastenings right round the vessel, which are *only six inch spike nails,* with an entire absence of bolts either iron or copper except where they have gone through knees. The miserable construction of this vessel is no doubt the cause of her being incapable for useful active service except in the cruel manner in which she was employed—to place a crew on board and leave them as a target for certain destruction by the enemy. Few Spaniards that have ever fought have been at greater disadvantage than the brave crew of the *Castilla.*

Further details of the great fight of May 1st filter through from the high officials of Manila as time passes. It now appears, according to authentic information in the hands of Consul Williams, that out of 491 men on the *Reina Cristina* 364 were killed; only 127 left the ship. An officer who was aboard and now in prison tells me that one could not step a foot in any direction on her decks without coming in contact with pieces of flesh or dead bodies. Such was the power of the American guns and the skill of the American gunners.

General Monet, the distinguished Spanish Governor of Pampangas province, has fallen in battle, shot through the head and heart while bravely leading his forces in a fight against the insurgents. All honour, I say, to his memory. I admire a brave man whether American, Spanish, or Britisher; and here is the first high Spanish military officer who has preferred to die rather than be made an easy prisoner by his foes. He was shut up in San Fernando with 1,200 Spaniards. They were surrounded and besieged by nearly an equal number of insurgents. Seeing starvation staring them in the face, they made a determined effort to break through the rebel lines and reach Macabebe, led by General Monet. In the action that followed he was killed. This took away all the courage and spirit of the Spaniards so that about 1,000 of them laid down their arms. The insurgent leader was Colonel Eugene Blanco, who has proved himself on other occasions to be a daring fighter.

Captain-General Augustin's family are living in a little town in Pampangas surrounded by the rebels and at their mercy. Influence has been brought to bear on General Aguinaldo to return them to Manila, but he says that they are not yet actually in his hands and if they are taken prisoners they will be kindly treated. As long as General Augustin has offered $25,000 for the head of Aguinaldo it is a little difficult to arrive at a system of logic by which he can expect the rebel leader to show him particular courtesy.

Aguinaldo has removed his headquarters to a larger and finer house in Cavite, formerly occupied by the Spanish Governor of the province. Every precaution is taken to protect him against possible assassination or poisoning by spies or hired desperadoes.

The *Kwonghoi* arrived recently with a large supply of provisions, which will be used to stock a store in Cavite. It was risky to cross the China Sea in such a river craft, but Capt. Mackenzie says that she stood it like an ocean liner. The most welcome part of her cargo was ice, but so much of it melted *en route* that it is not probable that much profit was realised from its importation.

The insurgents themselves need rifles more than food supplies. At the present writing they have about 7,000 armed men in active operations, and hope to put 10,000 more into the field within the next ten days.

The American squadron has moved further into Cavite harbour, so as to receive the protection afforded by Sanglay point in the south-west monsoon; not for the big ships themselves but for the multitude of smaller craft, launches, etc., that are in use day and night and form the mosquito fleet.

All the men-of-war in the Bay were dressed on Monday, the 20th, in honour of Queen Victoria's Accession day, and presented a beautiful sight. The breeze was strong and the flags and bunting showed to best advantage. At noon salutes were fired and what with the European squadron at one end of the Bay and the American at the other banging away, it was easy to imagine that a battle was in progress.

The weather is delightful. Cool breezes blow all day, and the nights are always favourable to sleep. The health of the American squadron is excellent and the men are in the best of spirits, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the *Charleston* and troop ships. Everything is in readiness for the latter. They are now due and barring accidents may arrive at any moment during the next six to eight days. They will be given a hearty welcome by the American forces already here and trained in battle who are longing for another contest.

A constant look-out is kept by the Americans for torpedo attacks, and it would seem impossible for any small craft to approach them at night without being destroyed before any damage could be done.

The news from inside the city indicates that the Spaniards are making plans to offer vigorous resistance to both the insurgent and American forces. New forts are being erected and old ones strengthened. Rifle pits are being prepared and great piles of sand bags are being placed in front of weak defences. Food is exceedingly scarce, and the insurgents have cut off communication with the interior. Fighting is still going on at different points around Manila. On Monday night a severe engagement occurred at Maytubig to the south of Manila. About 400 insurgents attacked the Spanish fortifications holding nearly 2,000 men. The latter were so frightened that they summoned reinforcements. When the insurgents stopped firing fully 5,000 more Spanish and native auxiliaries had arrived on the scene. In other words, fully 7,000 Spanish troops were required to drive back the plucky rebels.

Many new officers and assistants for Aguinaldo arrived on the *Kwonghoi* from Hongkong. The full staff of General Aguinaldo now in Cavite are Jose Leharda, Juan Arevolo, L. L. Zialcita, Eugenio Plona, Lazaro Makapagal, Eduardo Lanera, Julio Infante, Severino Roten, Benito Natividad, and Jose Leyba.

The *Esmeralda* arrived on Monday, anchored for a few hours near the flagship, delivered mails and dispatches, and then steamed over to the anchorage off Manila. She will probably load Chinese for Amoy. The British bark *Crown of Germany* is ready to sail for Amoy with 1,000 Chinese aboard. The *J. Y. Troop* left recently after unloading her coal. The *Honolulu* is still here with some 400 tons in her hold, which is being gradually unloaded as required.

The *Zafiro* has gone to Hongkong, but is expected back on Friday morning or Thursday night. Before this letter reaches Hongkong the *Baltimore* will have returned with the *Charleston* and troop ships.

The latest intelligence points to another big battle of combined water and land forces within the next ten days.

Since my interview with an Englishman quoted at the beginning of this letter, another British man-of-war has arrived, and there are rumours rife that two or three more may follow. If so his hopes will be gratified and no American will be sorry.

The Manila papers continue to publish monstrous stories about the Americans, and do not hesitate to employ the most contemptuous epithets all of which are whetting the appetites of the Americans to get even with them for these uncalled-for insults.

The *Bonaventure* has arrived and was welcomed by Americans as well as Britishers. It is reported that two or more British men-of-war will arrive in a few days. Now that the effect desired is created the Germans are sending away two of their men-of-war, according to statements of their officers.

Manila Bay, 23rd June.

LONDON.

(FROM OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.)

MR. GLADSTONE.

For the past few days even interest in the news from the seat of war (which as a matter of fact has been conspicuous by its absence) has had to give place to the far greater interest manifested not only by English people but by the world generally in the last days of Mr. Gladstone, whose death occurred at Hawarden Castle at five o'clock yesterday morning after an illness of some six months' duration, particulars of which I sent you in a former letter. It seems almost impossible to realise that this great and notable man has really been removed from our midst. Few of us ever knew as much as he must have forgotten in his long and varied career, as had he lived until next December he would have entered upon his 90th year.

Born in Liverpool, educated at Eton (where he enjoyed the reputation of being the prettiest little boy who ever entered the school), afterwards at Oxford, where he took a double-first and became a leading member of the Debating Society, he at his father's urgent request gave up his great desire, which was to go into the Church, and after a six months' tour in Italy entered Parliament in the Conservative interest as member for Newark in 1832. For fifteen years he remained faithful to Tory principles, after which he spent fourteen years in what has been termed his transition stage, during which time a gradual severance with his old traditions went on, which culminated in his definitely joining the Liberal party as leader of the House of Commons in 1865; and from that time until his retirement in 1894, a period of nearly 30 years, he was practically the chief of the Liberal Party.

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AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH

Mr. Gladstone was Privy Councillor, an M. A., Oxon, LL.D., Oxon, Life Governor of King's College, London, Elder Brother of the Trinity House, and Governor of Charterhouse. He was elected Lord Rector of Edinburgh University in 1860 and received the Freedom of the City of Dublin in 1877. Few men can boast such an honourable record. Mr. Justin Macarthy's

LIFE OF GLADSTONE

which has only lately been published will naturally acquire new interest, but that a fuller biography will be written goes without saying. It is already suggested that the task of compiling it may fall upon Mr. John Morley who was regarded by the late statesman as one of his most intimate friends, but be this as it may it will be a great and important work, virtually a history of England during the present reign, the life of a man who remembered hearing the guns which announced the victory of Waterloo and was still reckoned one of the first among England's great men when her Majesty attained her Diamond Jubilee last year.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

adjourned yesterday after a sitting of not more than five minutes' duration in honour of one who has been described as being, next only to Pitt, the greatest Englishman of the century. The *Westminster Gazette* last night pointed out that this adjournment was absolutely without precedent; never before has the House of Commons been adjourned owing to the death of any personage, not a member of the Royal Family, who was not a member of Parliament with a seat either in the House of Lords or House of Commons. During the few minutes' sitting Mr. Balfour announced that he would to-day move that Mr. Gladstone should have a public funeral and that a monument should be erected in Westminster Abbey. So far it is impossible to know what are the views of the late statesman's family with regard to the funeral, but it is believed that they will fall in with the wishes of Parliament and the nation generally on the subject. One wish only Mr. Gladstone is said to have expressed, and that is that no flowers should be used on the occasion, and this desire his family trust will be universally respected.

THE ROYAL MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

The nineteenth Royal Military Tournament was opened at the Agricultural Hall yesterday by the Duke of Cambridge. It is always an interesting spectacle, and though this year we miss the colonial contingent, who added so much *éclat* to last year's proceedings, still the present function is not altogether without distinction as Piper Findlater, who has just been discharged from Netley hospital, where last Saturday he had the honour of receiving the Victoria Cross from Her Majesty in recognition of his bravery at Dargai, is quite the hero of the hour. When he came on among the Pipers of the Gordon Highlanders in the pageant "Shoulder to Shoulder" he received quite an ovation. He is a short, sturdy-looking man and plays his pipes (he has just been presented with a new set in honour of his valour) with evident enjoyment. I am sorry to see that he is "billed" to appear at the Alhambra for the first time to-morrow night, as it seems rather a demoralising use to make of popularity gained under such different conditions, but I suppose the pay will be good and the temptation strong. It is amusing to read that hardly a week passes in which *the* Piper does not receive at least one offer of marriage from some fair dame who admires his bravery and valour. "Shoulder to Shoulder" is in reality a kind of object lesson in the costuming of the British army and navy from the days of Drake to the present day. Four periods are represented—1596, when under various Elizabethan heroes our soldiers and sailors defeated Philip of Spain at Cadiz—1704, when we took Gibraltar from the Spaniards—1801, made memorable by the battle of Alexandria—and 1884, when we gained a victory over the Madhists at El Teb. The costumes in all cases are said to be absolutely correct, though for the two former periods the assistance of Mr. Clarkson, of theatrical fame, had to be obtained. We are told that all the regiments chosen to take part in the pageant are those, or representatives of those, who actually fought on the various occasions, which naturally adds considerable interest to the display, as one feels one is assisting at historical spectacles and not merely witnessing a theatrical show. A great feature is the introduction of four camels among the El Teb contingent. That they played an important part in the war against the Madhists is a matter of history, and they certainly form a most artistic addition to the pageant.

THE FAMOUS MUSICAL RIDE

of the Royal Horse Guards (the Blues) is as usual one of the most interesting features of the entertainment. Every year I marvel more at the perfect training of both horses and men. It is worth going to the tournament to see this one item of the programme alone, but the cycling display by a detachment of the 26th Middlesex R. V. is novel and very interesting, showing how useful cyclists may be, especially in reconnoitring. The Navy is well represented, the display given by the seamen of H.M.S. *Excellent* is most—I was going to say excellent, but it might sound like a pun—at any rate it is very good. The final display, which might by some be termed theatrical, as it entails a certain amount of dressing up, is a representation of the "Capture of Benin City," one of our latest military achievements. The outskirts of the town are depicted and we are introduced to the King, with his mace bearer and other attendants. He is seated on a stool in the centre of an evidently august assembly. Some captured carriers are just being brought in before him, the executioner is just about to behead them with a sacrificial sword (a genuine one brought over from the seat of war), when firing is heard and our troops come up—the Benins fly into the town, a fight takes place, the village is set on fire, and the Union Jack is hoisted to the strains of the national anthem in a most realistic way.

EXHIBITION OF HOME ARTS AND INDUSTRIES.

The Princess of Wales, who is always to the fore in any good work, was present yesterday at the Albert Hall and opened the fourteenth annual exhibition of the "Home Arts and Industries." Her Royal Highness takes the greatest interest in this association and not only graced the opening by her presence, but both she, the Princess Victoria, and the Duchess of York are among the exhibitors this year. The leather of a very handsome leather work settee for a hall or dining room has been embossed by the Princess of Wales. It is most charming. The seat will accommodate two persons comfortably and has a high back and arms. The pattern on the seat is conventional, for the back a handsome design of lilies has been chosen. Princess Victoria shows a two-fold photo screen; one side is filled with folded brocade to hold the photos, the other contains two pieces of leather embossed with a very fine design of trees and foliage. The Duchess of York has sent a low fire screen which she has worked in silk panels, after the fashion of our grandmothers, with a cross stitch design of pink roses and blue ribbons, the grounding being of cream *filoselle*. The panels are mounted on to a background of electric blue brocade and the screen framed in gilt *à la* Louis XV. Among the general exhibits I think I was most struck with the embossed leather work sent from Leighton Buzzard. It is mostly done by cripples and is really wonderful.

The processes of weaving and bookbinding are also shown and attracted much attention. I was much interested in the exhibits from the Soho Club and Home for Working Girls, principally tailoresses. Some of the work they have sent is beautiful, and quite remarkable when one considers that it is all done in the evenings after a hard day's employment. I had a long chat with Miss Stanley (the Hon. Sec.) and have promised to visit the Club one evening soon, as I think an account of the good work being carried on there will prove most interesting.

It is impossible to give a detailed account of the exhibits, which comprise 30 sections and come from all parts of the United Kingdom. Fourteen years ago the association started with 40 classes in various centres, and they now number more than 500. Through its aid girls and boys have their idle hours filled up at a time of life when they most need a little outside guidance. Cripples and other invalids, whose lives were formerly a burden, are taught to work and are often enabled entirely to support themselves, and it is hoped that the tone of the working classes of the next generation may be materially influenced through the agency of this most excellent society.

J. K.

20th May.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

IN WESTMINSTER HALL.

I went and looked at that wonderful show of the English people yesterday—that interminable serpentine column slowly moving along the western pavement of Westminster Bridge, hugging on the left the majestic palisading, turning the angle and presently doubling back into Palace Yard and losing itself from sight through the broad portal of Westminster Hall, where the body of the great Gladstone lay in state. It was a memorable scene, memorable and striking by its very simplicity, in harmony with the peculiar character of the distinction of the man. For there was really nothing for all these hundreds of thousands of people to come and see, but a brown varnished oak coffin, with gilt handles, set upon a tall broad pediment covered with black cloth. For fourteen hours yesterday this long column of spontaneous mourners followed the track and for about as many hours to-day. Anybody might fall in, but he must go south and across the bridge, against the stream of mourners, till he found the conformation loose enough at the back to warrant him in taking a place. For fourteen hours people came, renewing the structure of the rope of human beings at the bridge end and making good the disintegration of the front end of the rope in Old Palace Yard as they passed out at that end of Westminster Hall. Over one of the arches through which the broad grey waters of the Thames were hurrying I found the column loose enough to let me in, and we passed along at the rate of two hundred in a minute at any given point, an occasional policeman holding the line and directing new comers to seek places at the rail end. Looking through the palisading we could study the front coil of our company winding its way to Westminster Hall gates. It was the middle of the afternoon, and at this part of the day some three-fourths of the people were women, and of these about half were in black. We were in fours, but when we reached the foot of the black structure at the further end whereof was the coffin on a broad pedestal, the column of fours was divided into two streams of twos, passing by the coffin on the

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right hand and the left. The true inwardness of the event was the fact that everybody realised that they were not there to witness a spectacle, but simply to play a quiet and solemn part in the last farewell of the English people to Mr. Gladstone—*the* Englishman whom absolutely everybody knew and whose death was an event which touched everybody's feeling.

THE OLD PRIVILEGES OF THE PEOPLE.

There was something significant and suggestive of the fact that we were brought back to Westminster Hall by the dead body of the man who staked the political activity and usefulness of the last twelve or thirteen years of his life on his scheme for the pacification of the Irish people. Until this week and this notable lying-in-state we have not had the run of Westminster Hall since that January day in 1885 when a dynamite infernal machine was exploded on those broad marble steps upon which Lady Harcourt, early on Thursday morning, stood looking down upon this coffin and thinking mournfully of this last appearance of the great statesman among his fellow countrymen. It is difficult to understand and to realise this fact, that for some thirteen years the public have been shut out of the great historic Hall and to a large extent out of Palace Yard, where they used to assemble, at exciting political times, to watch the coming and going of Ministers and distinguished members of Parliament and, indeed, in a larger degree to see Mr. Gladstone than to see any other public man connected with the business of the State. And it was not politics alone which brought crowds to Westminster Hall before dynamite shut the people out. Great cases in the Courts of Justice would be almost an equal attraction before the courts were removed to Temple Bar, and some of the most memorable scenes of these six or eight and twenty years were those when hundreds and thousands gathered here for the chance of seeing the Tichborne Claimant while his trials were on, and for the opportunity of very quaint and curious public discussions of the question whether the Claimant was Orton or Tichborne. If the dynamite infernal machine was excuse enough for the closing of Westminster Hall to the people, the lying-in-state of Mr. Gladstone, Home Ruler, might be excuse enough for restoring to our people their old privileges in this most famous historic interior in the world.

THE NATIONAL FUNERAL AT THE ABBEY.

A week ago we did not know for certain whether the great funeral would be at Hawarden or in London; and if in the Abbey, there was no definite notion as to the time—whether in ten days, or three weeks, or even five or six weeks hence. Even on Sunday, four days after the great Statesman's death, we had got no nearer than that the date might possibly be the 16th of June, some four weeks from the fatal morning. It was a great relief to everybody when the information came, on Monday, that the funeral was fixed for Saturday, in Westminster Abbey, with as much simplicity of parade and pageant and circumstance as possible in connection with a really national funeral. The man who had again and again refused a peerage, who would accept no external tokens in the shape of honours, whose greatest pride was in the position which his career had given him as a distinguished commoner, was not the man for a resplendent ceremonial funeral.

THE GREAT MAN'S WISHES.

Did he expect, did he aspire to a place in Westminster Abbey? Was this a thought which was even cherished by him in heart? There has been some speculation on this point, in view of certain words in his will, making it essential that he should not be separated from his wife when his career and hers should come to an end in this world.

Let me give the answer of the interpretation of those who had known him best. He knew well that he had the devotion of millions of the people, and this he valued more than any outward semblance of honour. His funeral and his last resting-place were mere matters of feeling with him, wholly personal and domestic. He loved Hawarden, away from the immediate cares of the world, more absolutely—as a matter of inward feeling—than he loved Westminster. When he knew that his days were numbered his most ardent aspiration was to reach Hawarden and die there. There cannot be a doubt in the minds of those who enjoyed his private confidence that the thing which most harmonised with his thought was that he should die and be buried in the home that he loved so dearly, and that his wife, when her time should come, should rest by his side. And we may venture to conclude that if he did not insist upon a Hawarden tomb, it was because he would not leave a posthumous decree which should absolutely forbid the nation to take him at his death if it should be evident that the people set their hearts upon taking him into the nation's possession. But even for the nation and the people he would not forego the resolute desire that in death he and his beloved wife should not be parted. And the country has taken him at his word. The Government quickly and surely interpreted the feeling of the population, and to the nation will belong the tomb of its greatest Statesman and to the nation the privilege of giving by-and-by a place by his side, in the Grand Old Abbey, for the partner of his life. He was a Liberal and we have a Conservative Administration, but the Government has done well and in good spirit its part in this event. No token of judgment or good feeling has been lacking. There was no concession to the family or to the popular feeling which could be made that has been withheld. Parliament and Government, the nation and the Press, the pulpit and the platform have risen to the high demands of the occasion.

THE WAR.

We might well yield to the disposition that comes to most of us spontaneously to give little heed to other things this week, but we cannot be let off so. The bill of current history is very full and its items are a good deal pressing. I need not talk here about the events of the war, but the developments of thought and feeling that grow out of it, the changes which it promises to make in the relations of nations and in the relations between the past and the future in the story of progress and civilisation cannot be wholly passed by. I think our people here are a little surprised at the degree in which our Transatlantic cousins have risen to the thought of a high sympathy between England and America. The truth is that the events of these few weeks have not made much change in the general sentiment and sympathy of our people for their cousins on the other side; but rather the events have opened the eyes of the people of the Republic to the fact of the general sympathy and good feeling. Cuba has made them discover our family affection, and happily there seems good reason to hope that felicitous things in the time to come may grow out of it.

PRO-AMERICANS AND PRO-SPANISH.

At a distance our friends may wonder to what extent we are really on the side of America in the quarrel. There is no denying that a great many people are to be found here who took the Spanish side at the beginning, and sometimes we found them indignantly denying that the preponderance of sympathy was on the American side. And some of us were a little afraid that the pro-Spaniards would make an inconvenient amount of noise, and that untoward incidents might throw some weight into the scale on that side and spoil the general aspect of our true feelings. But that has passed away. The pro-Spaniards have a good deal left off talking. The events of the war so far have had something to do with it; the figure that Spain makes as a nation, and the disposition on the Continent to take that side. But far greater than all else put together is the influence of the manifestations of the American feeling. The way in which our cousins have risen to the thought of friendship and sympathy from this side has captivated those who hesitated. The Americans' moods of jealousy heretofore for some time past have touched the sensitiveness of a good many on this side and the sensitive have quickly swung round to the domestic call. And if it were rather too much to say at first that England was overwhelmingly on the side of the Republic; it is hardly too much to say so *now*, and I verily believe we should go into mourning over any serious calamity of the war overtaking our cousins.

THE EVOLUTION OF SYMPATHY.

Then even those who proposed to see merits on the side of Spain in the quarrel, seem now to see reason to think that it would be a matter for rejoicing if America would hold on to the Philippines. There are really not two opinions on that point in this country.

KRÜGER AND CHAMBERLAIN.

Yesterday and to-day we have been concerning ourselves somewhat over Dr. Leyds's dispatch from the Transvaal to our Colonial Office. Nobody will give a point at all to President Krüger as to the suzerainty. To the English politician it is a merely laughable notion that we should submit questions between London and Pretoria to arbitration. But we cannot blind our eyes to the fact that it may mean trouble. Krüger is keen on the point, but we do not expect Mr. Chamberlain to yield one jot. And I am not sure there are not some here who would be willing to take the consequence—and to call upon the Transvaal to take the consequences—of any serious difference on the question.

27th May.

Meetings.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Wednesday, the 22nd of June, 1898, at 4.30 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. S. Fearon (Chairman), F. Anderson, E. A. Hewett, M. Rohde, E. Shellim, A. P. Stokes, J. Welch, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The Minutes of last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Settlement Extension.—The reply of the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce to the Council's dispatch on this subject is read, covering the report of the meeting of the Chamber convened to emphasise the importance of the movement and the correspondence is ordered to be published:—

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Municipal Council,
Shanghai, 9th June, 1898.

SIR,—You will have observed in the Minutes of the Council published to-day certain correspondence in regard to the question of Settlement Extension. From the Senior Consul's dispatch of 22nd ultimo it will be remarked that, after abortive negotiations with the local native authorities, this important question has been referred to the Viceroy at Nanking for settlement. It will be within the recollection of the Chamber that in August 1895 the Council, upon the Chamber's representations, addressed the Senior Consul in this matter. The latter, after a fruitless attempt to enter into negotiations with the Taotai, referred it to the Diplomatic Body at Peking, by whom a vigorous dispatch was addressed without result to the Yamên in March 1896. The Council having been subsequently informed, semi-officially, that the time was inopportune for renewing the subject at Peking, certain negotiations of a preliminary nature were conducted with the local gentry and minor officials at Shanghai during the year 1896; from these, little resulted beyond the verification of the fact that the local officials are, generally speaking, in favour of the scheme of Settlement Extension. In September of last year, however, the Council impressed with the vital and immediate importance of the question in its bearing upon the health, comfort, and prosperity of the rapidly increasing community, renewed its efforts to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion. I beg to refer you to the correspondence which passed between the Chamber and the Council at that date, where the interests of both were recognised to be identical and of the highest importance. The views expressed in the Council's letter of 22nd September to the Senior Consul were cordially endorsed and supported by the action of your Chamber.

From the reply to that letter, published in to-day's minutes, you will, however, observe that the question of Settlement Extension, after being referred to Peking and since reopened locally by the Senior Consul, under instructions from the Diplomatic Body, is practically in the same unsatisfactory state as it occupied immediately after the first negotiations in 1895. Under these circumstances I am desired by my colleagues to bring the facts of the case to your notice, and to suggest that the weight of the Chamber's powerful influence be brought to bear on the question.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. S. FEARON,
Chairman.

E. F. ALFORD, Esq.,
Chairman,
Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

Shanghai General Chamber
of Commerce,
Shanghai, 21st June, 1898.

DEAR SIR,—I have not hitherto replied to your letter of the 9th instant relative to the much desired extension of the Foreign Settlements as the verbal arrangements made between us rendered it unnecessary I have however now the pleasure to advise you officially of the Special General Meeting of this Chamber held on the 17th instant, of which printed official accounts will be sent you, and regarding which the Chamber has duly addressed the Ministers at Peking individually.

We can but hope that such a unanimous expression of opinion will have the desired effect.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
E. F. ALFORD,
Chairman.

J. S. FEARON, Esq.,
Chairman,
Shanghai Municipal Council.

Milk Sterilisation. — Letter from the Chairman of the Sanitary Board on this subject is read, setting forth the individual views of the members whose opinions as to such work being under Municipal control are divided. To give the subject due ventilation the Health Officer is to be directed to prepare a report on the subject giving the method and advantages of, and any reasons against, its adoption.

Foochow Road Widening.—Letter from Messrs. Dowdall, Hanson and McNeill is read, stating that the proposals made to Mrs. Cowie in regard to the sale of a portion of lo 276 have been rejected by wire.

Payment of the expenses incurred is authorised.

The annexed correspondence is ordered to be published :—

Municipal Council,
Shanghai, 20th April, 1898.

DEAR SIRS,—With reference to your application to rebuild houses on Cadastral Lot 276, English Settlement, I beg to draw your attention to the Plan of Road Extensions and Road Widenings adopted by the Council in 1894, which provides for the widening of the Foochow Road by acquiring a strip of the frontage of Cadastral Lot 276.

As the width of this road is insufficient for the increasing traffic, I shall thank you if you will kindly inform me whether any arrangement can be made for acquiring the necessary land for effecting the proposed widening to 40 feet. This would require a strip of land 34ft. x 11ft. from the piece on which you propose to build, say 374 square feet or *0m. 0f. 5l. 1h.*

I am, dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MAYNE,
Engineer & Surveyor.

Messrs. DOWDALL, HANSON & MCNEILL.

Municipal Council,
Shanghai, 11th May, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—In the matter of the widening of the Foochow Road, through the purchase of a portion of Lot 276, owned by Mrs. Cowie, I am now instructed to request you to endeavour to arrange for the transfer of the *5l. 1h.*, described in the Engineer's letter of 20th ultimo, upon payment by the Council of Tls 1,055.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
J. O. P. BLAND,
Secretary.

Messrs. DOWDALL, HANSON and MCNEILL.

5, Hongkong Road.
Shanghai, 22nd June, 1898.

SIR,—On receipt of your letter of the 11th ultimo on the subject of widening Foochow Road through the purchase of a part of Mrs Cowie's Cadastral lot 276, we wrote fully to Mrs. Cowie and advising to accept the terms offered but have received her answer by telegraph declining. Although she adds that she is writing on the subject, we fear we cannot keep the land vacant any longer, as this entails a loss of $124 a month, but shall be glad to hear from you promptly.

We are, Sir,
Your obedient servants,
DOWDALL, HANSON & MCNEILL.

J. O. P. BLAND, Esq.,
Secretary,
Municipal Council.

Municipal Council,
Shanghai, 23rd June, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—Your letter of yesterday on the subject of the proposed widening of the Foochow Road at Cad. Lot 276. was duly submitted for the information of the Council at yesterday's meeting. In reply, I am directed to express to you the Council's cordial thanks for the courtesy and liberality which have marked your action in this matter, together with its regret that the negotiations should have failed to attain the desired end; it is felt that, in view of your present communication, no good object would be served by further delay, and the Council is therefore regretfully compelled to abandon the proposed public improvement. If you will forward to me a memorandum of the expenses incurred under these negotiations, the amount will be duly paid, as already arranged. Building Permit will be sent.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
J. O. P. BLAND,
Secretary.

Messrs. DOWDALL, HANSON and MCNEILL.

Gaol Accommodation.—A memorandum by the Captain-Superintendent is submitted drawing attention to the unsatisfactory and limited nature of existing gaol accommodation, and forwarding certain preliminary plans and suggestions for the building of a new Municipal prison on the site of the old Rifle Range Butt. Pending further consideration of this question, it is decided to endeavour to obtain from the proper authorities the temporary use of H. M.'s Consular Gaol.

The Meeting then adjourns.

The following reports are submitted, and ordered to be published with the foregoing minutes :—

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 25th day of June, 1898 :—

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	30
Burglary	2
Cruelty to Animals	3
Cutting and Wounding	1
Furious riding or driving	10
Gambling	8
Larceny from persons	1
,, ,, dwellings, &c.	66
Murder	1
Miscellaneous cases	318
Ricsha Licenses suspended	568
,, ,, confiscated	52
Wheelbarrow ,, suspended	31
Handcart ,, ,,	2
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	268
Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police	1,361
Chinese dead bodies found in streets	11
Stray dogs captured	76

PIERRE B. PATTISSON.
Captain-Superintendent, S.M.P.

Native Dairies.—Monthly Report.

SIR,—All the native dairies have been regularly inspected during the month when the licensed premises were found in good condition and the animals healthy.

On the 4th inst. a sample bottle of milk was taken from Loong Sheng, a licensed dairyman in Li Hongkew, which on analysis by Dr. Stanley was found to have been adulterated with a large quantity of dirty creek water containing large numbers of bacteria. Loong Sheng was prosecuted at the Mixed Court on the 10th inst., when he was fined $100.00. Two unlicensed dairymen have also been prosecuted for having milk for sale within the settlement, one on the 10th inst. being fined $3.00 and the other on the 28th inst. fined $20. 0. Licenses were issued to two dairymen during the month, *viz.:* Ah Mai and Chang Hong Kee, North Honan Road.

The case of Loong Sheng should be a warning to those people who trust to native servants for their milk supply. Loong Sheng while confessing to adding creek water to his milk said he was compelled to do so, because native butlers and especially stewards of steamers, wanted the milk at a cheaper price than he could sell it at without loss to himself.

Care should also be taken by customers to any dairy to see that the delivery coolie has attached to his basket, at each time of delivery, a dairy license and by seeing that the colour of the wax and the chop thereon correspond with what is marked on the license.

During the past week a case has come under my notice where an unlicensed dairyman used a distinct colour of wax—used only by a foreign dairy—on which he put his own chop and then delivered the milk from his

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unlicensed dairy to a customer within the settlement as milk coming from a foreign dairy. In this case the customer did not see the difference of the chop until pointed out to her; although she could testify as to the great difference in the quality of the milk.

I enclose a list of the licensed native dairies.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN CHRISTIE,
Inspector of Dairies etc.

To Dr. STANLEY,
Medical Office of Health, Shanghai.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—Return of animals kept at the native dairies, 29th June :—

Name of Owner and [illegible]	Last Month Return.	Bulls	Cows	Bullocks	Calves	Total	Remarks.
Hung Fei, Bubbling Well Road	25	1	17	6	3	27	
Sing Kee and Yuen Sung, Bub. Well Rd.	26	1	9	6	2	18	
Sia Yuen Kee, off Bubbling Well Road.	4					4	
Chang Kee and Zeong Sung, Siuza Road.	39	1	16	3	4	24	
Soon Sun Chun, Siuza Road	17		3	1		4	
Sui Chun do,	8					8	
Shanghai Dairy Co., off Carter Road	18		10			10	
Ah Chung do.	2					2	
Chau Loong Shing do.							
Zee Butler do.	20	1	4			5	
Nee Shing do.	7		2			2	
King Loong do.							
Shanghai Dairy, off Yaugtsepoo Road.	10		9			9	
Wang Tong Shin, off Seward Road	3		4			4	
Ho Sin Tai and Dong Hing, Lee Hongkew	30	1	3	3	1	8	
Mo Hung Sing and Loong Sheng do.	21		6			6	
Char Mow Zung, Seawei Road	24	1	3	2	1	7	
Hoen Yun Sing do.	10		6			6	
Wong Hip Kee, South Gate	9		5	1		6	
Tai Woo Dairy, French Creek	32	1	3	3		7	
Ah Mai, No 6 Honan Road	3		2	1		3	
Chang Hong Kee do.			1			1	
Total	340	6	106	35	10	157	Decrease 7 head.

JOHN CHRISTIE,
Inspector.

BOYD AND CO., LIMITED.

The seventh annual general meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held in the Board Room, Pootung, on Tuesday evening. Mr. John Prentice, chairman, presided and there were also present Mr. C. W. Hay and Mr. J. Johnston (directors), Messrs. J. M. Young, J. D. Thorburn, Drummond Hay, J. Ferrier, Alan Stewart, J. Tulloch, W. H. Beatty, W. H. Poate, C. Buchanan, and J. H. Osborne (secretary).

The Chairman, in rising to move the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ending 30th April last (copies of which have already been published in these columns), said—To begin with, gentlemen, it will be interesting to you to note that there are 6,441 shares represented at this meeting. The report and accounts have been in your hands for some days and with your permission we will take them as read. During the past year you will see we have got through a very considerable amount of work, and you will notice in the report that the directors congratulate the shareholders on the continued success of the concern. The balance to the credit of profit and loss account this year is Tls. 196,285.40, showing an increase over last year of over Tls. 46,000, which I think, gentlemen, can be considered very satisfactory. It is with one exception the best we have had and shows an enormous increase on the first year's working, and it is an increase which we hope will go on. It is a legitimate increase and we hope year by year we shall continue to show an increase. The amount for appropriation is Tls. 193,985.40 and with you: approval we propose to divide it as follows r (1) to place to reserve fund Tls. 30,000, (2) to maintenance and depreciation account Tls. 15,000, (3) to pay a dividend on the ordinary shares of 15 per cent, which will absorb Tls. 117,000, (4) to pay a dividend of Tls. 117 on each founder's share, absorbing Tls. 23,400, and (5) to carry forward to new account Tls. 8,585.40. This, gentlemen. is the second occasion on which the founders have earned a dividend, the object of the directors in the past having been to build up the reserve fund, and although the profits have been high enough we have thought it better to augment that fund rather than pay a dividend on the founders' shares, which we were able to do, after having paid 12 per cent on the ordinary shares. This is the second year in which we have declared dividends on these shares, having worked up during the seven years of our business a reserve fund of Tls. 220,000 and paid dividends on the ordinary shares amounting on the company's capital to 88 per cent. That I think you will consider as most satisfactory. On looking at the statement of accounts you will see that part of our reserve fund is invested in local stocks, and these stocks I may state here are worth to-day Tls. 24,189 more than are stated in the accounts. We merely state them here at the prices at which we bought them. This I think you may also consider as very satisfactory. Mr. Hay, one of our directors, retires, but being eligible offers himself for re-election. Mr. Thorburn, our auditor, also retires but offers himself for re-election. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions that you may please to put.

No questions being asked,

The Chairman moved, and Mr. C. Hay seconded, that the report and statement of accounts as presented be approved and the appropriation adopted.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

On the motion of Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Poate, Mr. C. Hay was unanimously re-elected a director for the ensuing year.

Mr. J. M. Young moved, Mr. Tulloch seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to that Mr. Thorburn be re-elected auditor of the company.

The Chairman—That finishes the business and the meeting. The dividend warrants will be posted to-morrow and in connection with that I may say that of Tls. 140,000 we have to pay Tls. 120,000 comes to Pootung. That I think will show you the confidence the people connected with the firm have got in it. (Hear, hear.)

A vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff of the company was unanimously carried on the motion of Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Tulloch.

Mr. Prentice having suitably acknowledged the compliment the proceedings terminated.

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Amusements.

THE SMOKING CONCERT CLUB'S CONCERT.

A repetition of the entertainment originally given on the 17th instant took place at the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday evening to which ladies were invited, and in consequence the "Smoke" was dispensed with and certain alterations had been made in the programme. Unfortunately a very high and uncomfortable degree of heat was developed during the day, and no doubt this prevented many from attending who would have been present had the weather been cooler. The dress circle was well filled, but the lower part of the house unfortunately showed the greater part of the seats unoccupied.

Each part of the programme was opened by a piano solo played by Mr. Vinay. Mr. Philipp again sang the "Tokayerlied" which he gave on the first occassion, and Mr. W. M. Wood also repeated his rendering of "Tell her I love her so," both of which were highly appreciated. Mr. Nelson was down on the programme for one song only, "Alone on the Raft," but his singing of it so pleased the audience that they insisted on an *encore*, to which Mr. Nelson acceded by giving "The Merry Monk." The Sword Display and Lance Exercise by Sikh Troopers of the Police under the command of Sergt. Spottiswood, and also the displays on the parallel bar and horizontal bar by Messrs. Gregory and De Giéter were given again as on the 17th inst. and formed interesting items in the evening's entertainment, more especially the bar displays, which were exceptionally good, though the two clever athletes must have found the hot weather very trying and the difficulties of their feats thereby greatly increased. Mr. F. W. Such was down on the programme for "The Prophets of Baal," but a slip was inserted stating that he would recite Thackeray's "Ballad of Eliza Davis" instead. To the majority of those present in the theatre this announcement was supererogatory as Mr. Such was quite inaudible, and might have been reciting either of the two pieces without a large portion of the audience knowing which he had selected. Mr. Such has been frequently reminded that he speaks in too low a tone, but he makes no change in his style of delivery, so that many who should be his auditors are deprived of what would afford them great enjoyment if he spoke up. Mr. L. K. Davis was down in the programme for a recitation in character, but Mr. Such came before the curtain to make an announcement which was ascertained to be to the effect that Mr. Davis was indisposed and the number would therefore be cut out.

The first part of the programme on this occasion was concluded by a song in character rendered by Mr. Wedemeyer, "Little Dolly Daydream" by Leslie Stuart. It is a quaint Virginian love ditty that grows in favour on acquaintance and was sung in excellent style. The audience were charmed with it and recalled Mr. Wedemeyer, who gave as an *encore* a lullaby by the same author "De Baby am a cryin, Mommer come." The vocalist made use of a cradle for appropriate action and business in trying to soothe an infant, and carried all off with consummate skill, and as the song itself was tuneful the audience were perfectly enchanted with this unlooked-for treat. Mr. Wedemeyer's turn was the gem of the evening's entertainment. The second part of the programme was concluded with Mr. Hurl Cards' clever skit on Carl Hertz, as given on the 17th, and brought down the curtain amidst much applause.

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SATURDAY'S YACHTING.

FLAPPERS.

Leven No. 1. Mr. C. M. Adamson.
Madcap ,, 2. ,, G. Burgoyne.
Irvine ,, 3. ,, T. A. Clark.
Merlin ,, 4. Messrs. Styan & Beeston.
Sibyl ,, 5. Mr. C. H. Burghard.

Again the whole fleet started with owners at the tiller at 1.30. p.m., at the same time as the Handicap class. The breeze was light from the N. E., and at gunfire the small craft crossed as under: *Merlin*, *Leven*, *Irvine*, *Sibyl*, with the *Madcap* a little astern. It was a close reach down the harbour and positions were unchanged except that the *Madcap* closed up. After passing the Yangtzsepoo mill the boats had to work to windward and the *Merlin* and *Leven* drew away from the rest. Here the flood began to make and the small craft made slow progress and had to work down the last of the ebb in the centre. Off the Point it was tack and tack, and the *Leven* came into first place. The two leading boats worked the Pootung shore and changed places several times, but at Slack Point the *Leven* had a short lead. The *Irvine*, which was working down the spit, seemed to have had a litf up on the way down, and perhaps, as the flood had made strong, her owner would have done better by working the Hongkew shore. He elected, however, to follow the other boats, and thereby threw away any chance he had. Off Black Point a strong tide was met and the craft behind closed considerably on the leaders, but were in turn left astern when they came out from under the lee of the Point. Here the wind shifted a little and a close haul could fetch the markboat. The *Leven* somewhat increased her lead and the following are the times at the mark.—

Leven	4h.	28m.	15s.
Merlin	4h.	30m.	10s.
Irvine	4h.	48m.	00s.
Sibyl	4h.	49m.	30s.
Madcap	4h.	54m.	35s.

Sheets were eased off for the run home, and the leading boat managed to increase the gap between her and the next Flapper. After passing the Point the wind fell much lighter, and after a tedious run up the harbour the line was reached as under :—

Leven	5h.	45m.	10s.
Merlin	5h.	48m.	20s.
Irvine	6h.	13m.	40s.
Sibyl	6h.	16m.	47s.
Madcap	not timed.		

The *Merlin* crossed the starting line 30 seconds before gun-fire and was therefore disqualified.

—*Sport & Gossip.*

The course in the Yacht race on Saturday was as it turned out unhappily chosen the result being "no race" for both the "Handicap" and the "Flappers" classes. The start was at 3.30, and although the difficulty there would be in completing the race was fully recognised, there were very few absentees at the starting line which says much for the enthusiasm of our yachtsmen. In the handicap class the starters were the *Lorna*, *Spoondrift*, *Idaho*, *Iris*, *Lamb*, and *Henrietta*.

The course was to Kajao creek and back with strong ebb and light but steady S. W. breeze to help them the yachts got over the ground at a fair rate. Before long the three leading boats were the *Lorna*, *Spoondrift*, and *Idaho* in the order named, and this order was maintained to the stakeboat which was rounded by the *Lorna* about 4.55 p.m., the *Spoondift* rounding about two minutes later with the *Idaho* fairly close up. It was a dead beat back to the Point against the strong ebb, and it says a good deal for the quality of the boats that in the light breeze they were able to make fair progress by short tacks along the Hongkew shore. The *Lorna* increased her lead slightly, the *Spoondrift* also getting away a little from the *Idaho*. The light breeze maintained fairly well until about 7 o'clock when it was with difficulty that the still running ebb could be stemmed at all, and the leading yacht *Lorna* being still a long way from home, it became evident that the race could not be completed by the specified time, *viz.* 8 o'clock.

The *Spoondrift* was fortunate enough to get a very welcome tow from the Water Works and the crews of the others reached home as best they could in various ways and in straggling order. The *fiasco* was caused by the most unfortunate direction of the wind, and had it been from almost any other direction than S.W. there would have been little difficulty in completing the race in due time, in spite of having to work back against a strong tide. The alternative course was to go up river starting at the early and inconvenient hour of 12.30 p.m. and with exposure during the whole afternoon to the full force of a July sun.

CRICKET.

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB *v.* SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL ATHLETIC CLUB.

This Match should have been entitled "A match between elevens from the S.C.C. and S.P.S.A.C." for neither side was playing its full strength, and the representatives of the Senior Club were weakened by the absence of Smalley and W. H. Moule. Making every allowance, however, no one could have foreseen the actual result. The seniors being slow to turn up were put in first, and with the exception of a single wicket lost by stumping were all clean bowled for a total of *nineteen*, H.S.Goodfellow being credited with six of the wickets. But the most unexpected part of this unique match was yet to come. The School opened their innings with N. E. Möller, and G. F. Lanning, who at once began to score, and in a very short time had beaten their opponents' total. Runs came very freely as the batsmen got set, though neither of them was found wanting when steady defence was necessary, and the score mounted up till Möller had made 57, and his partner 48. These with a couple of byes brought up a total of 107, and the innings was declared closed without the loss of a wicket. In their second attempt the S.C.C. did better, losing six wickets for 41, of which Nelson had compiled 24, not-out. The scores were as follows:—

S. C. C.

P. Knyvett, b. V. H. Lanning	1
H. R. Hearson, b. Goodfellow	2
H. E. Campbell, b. Möller	5
C. G. Close, b. Goodfellow	7
C. H. Ryde, b. Goodfellow	0
F. Rayden, b. Möller	0
W. H. Bell, b. Goodfellow	0
A. R. Leake, not-out	2
E. Nelson, st. A. Lanning, b. Goodfellow	0
E. des Voeux, b. Goodfellow	0
Bye 1; l-b. 1	2
	19

S. P. A. C.

G. F. Lanning, not-out	48
N. E. Möller, not-out	57
Byes, 2	2
Innings declared closed	107

S.C.C.—Second innings.

A. R. Leake, c. V. E. Lanning, b. A. E. Woodward	0
F. Rayden, c. and b. A. E. Lanning	4
E. Nelson not-out	24
C. G. Close, b. A. E. Lanning	0
C. S. Ryde, c. and b. A. E. Lanning	3
P. Knyvett, b. A. M. Woodward	3
W. H. Bell, b. G. F. Lanning	3
Byes 3; n-b. 1	4
	41

S.C.C. *v.* SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

This match was played on the S.C.C.'s Ground on Saturday afternoon, neither side being fully represented. The Cricket Club put together 112 but the opposite side proved much the stronger and thanks mainly to a fine not-out contribution of 54 by Tyack, gained the verdict by 28 runs, having also only lost half their wickets. The scores were:—

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB.

G. E. Dew, c. and b. Tyack	14
H. S. King, c. Pattisson b. Campbell	7
J. Mann, b. Pattisson	17
A. J. H. Moule, hit-wkt, b. Pattisson	2
A. E. Stewart, st. Macgregor, b. Pattisson.	6
N. J. Stabb, b. Tyack	34
H. B. Weeks, c. Macgregor, b. Tyack	15
W. W. G. Ross, l-b-w., b. Farbridge	0
G. Cooper, b. Farbridge	2
J. K. Tweed, b. Farbridge	0
E. O. Cumming, not-out	5
Byes 8, l-b. 1., w. 1.	10
	112

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

S. Reynell, b. Mann	15
W. B. Cheetham, c. Mann, b. Stewart	13
R. C. Farbridge, c. Dew, b. Mann	24
W. J. Tyack, not-out	54
A. P. Wood, b. Stewart	3
R. Macgregor, b. Stewart	8
P. B. Pattisson, not-out	10
Byes	13
	140

S. W. Pratt, A. S. Bremner, T. W. Chisholm, and W. H. Campbell did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S.C.C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Tyack	12	4	26	3
Campbell	8	1	21	1
Pratt	5	1	6	0
Pattisson	8	0	35	3
Farbridge	7	4	9	3
Bremner	1	0	5	0

S.R.C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Mann	19	3	70	2
Dew	5	1	7	0
Tweed	3	0	15	0
Stewart	9	2	23	3
Cumming	5	0	12	0

POLICE *v.* RANGERS.

This match was played on the Public Recreation Ground on Saturday afternoon and resulted in an easy win for the Police thus revenging themselves for the drubbing they received two weeks previously at the hands of this newly-formed club. The police only played ten men at the bat but had the advantage of an efficient substitute when fielding. Spottiswood and C. Champion opened the score for the guardians of the peace and so well did they play that 52 went up before Champion dissolved the partnership. Altogether the team put on 106; the subsequent batsmen with the exception of Mackintosh and Lawrence giving very little trouble. The Rangers cut up very badly, only Green and Abbott offering anything like resistance to the deliveries of Lynch. This bowler got a lot of work in and at times was very tricky. Altogether he took eight wickets for the small total of 15 runs. Score and analysis:—

POLICE.

Spottiswood, b. Hill	46
C. Champion, c. and b. Johnson	22
E. Lynch, c. W. E. Wilson, b. F. Johnson	6
M. J. Champion, c. W. E. Wilson, b. Hill	5
Mackintosh, c. Whittall, b. Johnson	12
Cumming, b. Johnson	0
Chilver, b. Johnson	4
Aiers, c. Johnson, b. Hill	0
Lawrence, not-out	10
Bourke, c. and b. Hill	1
	106

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RANGERS.

W. E. Wilson, b. Lynch	0
T. Abbot, b. Lynch	8
W. Whittall, b. Lynch	2
S. E. Green, b. Lynch	10
H. Wilson, c. Cumming, b. Lynch	0
B. Anderton, run-out	4
F. Johnson, c. Champion, b. Lynch	4
A. Hill, b. Lynch	6
C. Kragh, b. Lynch	4
W. J. Milley, b. Chilver	2
H. B. Collins, not-out	0
Extras	3
	43

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

POLICE.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
W. E. Wilson	4	0	20	0
F. Johnson	13	3	45	5
H. Wilson	4	0	16	0
A. Hill	6	1	20	4

RANGERS.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Sergt. Lynch	11	4	15	8
C. Champion	9	2	25	1
Chilver	1.1	1	0	1

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB v. SHANGHAI BOWLING CLUB.

Some interesting cricket was witnessed in this match which was decided on the Recreation Club's Ground on Saturday afternoon. The Bowling Club went to the wickets first, Sawyer and Coutts taking up their stands against the deliveries of Naylor and Jackson. Both batsmen opened carefully and runs came very slowly at the start, a good cut for a couple by Sawyer being the only noticeable feature of the initial exchanges. With only ten up Sawyer played too late to a tricky one from Naylor, whilst with only another single telegraphed, Coutts fell to a splendid catch in the slips by one of the ground boys who was fielding in the temporary absence of H. Veitch. The batsmen could do nothing at all with the bowling and wickets fell rapidly, Adams being bowled and Murray well caught on the boundary by the Chinese substitute. In fact half the side were out with only twenty runs up. With Carr in however a more promising outlook was presented and he and Gumpert carried the total to 31 for the next wicket, the last named receiving a life at the hands of Brooks. The end was not far off and with Matthews absent the innings terminated for the paltry total of 46. Naylor being credited with five wickets for 25 runs and Jackson the remaining four with the gratifying average of 4.5.

The home side commenced batting about four o'clock with Cock and Brooks, Grattan and Sawyer sharing the attack. The start, however, was not propitious as in the first over after scoring a risky, couple Cock was dismissed as the result of a capital catch by Murray at point. Naylor joined Brooks and the two carried the score to twenty when Naylor succumbed to the wicket keeper and with the figures unaltered Brooks was clean bowled. With Jackson in some tall hitting was seen though he certainly played very carelessly. The Bowling Club's compilation was soon eclipsed Murray in the meantime replacing Sawyer. The second ball he sent down Jackson drove right out of the ground. He then put up an easy one in the long field but Matthews failed to hold it and after this he had a series of lives, T. Veitch and Cornish, the last named very badly, missing chances. At 57 Wallace was caught by the stumper though he demurred somewhat at the decision, and twelve later H. Veitch skied one to Gumpert which was held. T. Veitch then came in and with Ord batting in good form the two punished the bowling unmercifully. With 175 on the board T. Veitch was bowled, the last man being just one short of his fifty. His 49 was earned by good sound cricket marred by only one blemish towards the close. The score and analysis are appended:—

SHANGHAI BOWLING CLUB.

F. H. Sawyer, b. Naylor	6
G. D. Coutts, c. sub., B. Naylor	4
H. Adams, b. Jackson	1
G. L. Grattan, c. Ord, b. Naylor	4
W. C. Murray, c. sub., b. Jackson	1
R. Carr, c. Cock, b. Naylor	14
E. Gumpert, b. Naylor	5
J. C. Hanson, not-out	5
N. E. Cornish, c. T. Veitch, b. Jackson	3
R. C. Shaw, b. Jackson	3
G. A. Matthews, absent.	
	46

S. R. C.

T. Cock, c. Murray, b. Grattan	2
A. H. Brooks, b. Sawyer	9
J. Naylor, c. Carr, b. Grattan	8
W. H. Jackson, c. Carr, b. Grattan	27
S. M. Wallace, c. Carr, b. Grattan	11
H. Veitch, c. Gumpert, b. Grattan	8
T. Wallace, c. Sawyer, b. Coutts	12
T. Veitch, b. Cornish	49
J. Ord, c. Adams, b. Cornish	20
P. J. Gillings, run-out	8
J. C. Greenwood, not-out	8
Byes 10, l-b. 2, w.b. 1	13
	175

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S.B.C.

	Overs.	Runs.	Mdns.	Wkts.
Naylor	11	25	1	5
Jackson	10.3	18	4	4

S.R.C.

	Overs.	Runs.	Mdns.	Wkts.
Grattan	15	2	47	5
Sawyer	9	1	33	1
Murray	7	1	27	0
Coutts	3	0	22	1
Hanson	4	0	19	0
Cornish	4.3	6	14	2

Correspondence.

A PLEA FOR QUIET.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to bring to your notice an instance of what appears to me gross mismanagement on the part of the Municipal Road Department?

Since several years this Department makes it a point to repair the Nanking Road just when the hot weather sets in, and what the noise of the steam-roller and the road coolies in the early morning, the only time people very often get a little sleep, means, in addition to the heavy carriage traffic through that road, till late at night, I should say everybody understands. Not to speak of the smell of the roller during the day.

But that is not all. I noticed yesterday that the coolies take a long rest during the hot part of the day. Does that mean that the Municipal Road Department studies their comfort more closely than that of the foreign Shanghai residents?

As far as I can see, there is no reason why the road cannot be put in order in Spring, when windows can be kept closed, and also the carriage traffic, with which it interferes, is not so heavy.

I personally do not mind noise. But how about those poor people who are ill or recovering from illness? Does the Municipal Road Department wish them to sleep with closed windows just during the hottest time of the year, merely on account of a nuisance which in my opinion can be easily avoided?

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,

ST.

29th June.

INFECTION ON SHIPBOARD.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—As a traveller, and a man generally interested in human welfare, I beg to go to your valued paper for a little enlightenment in regard to certain rules of health which should or should not obtain on board ship.

Is there any board of health, either active or passive, real or *pseudo* on board ship, as on land? I will illustrate my meaning by the following incident.

A well-known ship, which sailed very recently from San Francisco to this port, had on board two children (of an eminently respectable missionary family) evidently afflicted with the whooping-cough. The parents of other children on board went in alarm to the Captain and ship surgeon, both of whom pooh-poohed their fears and denied any belief in the whooping-cough. Even later when the disease was apparent to every one, no attempt was made to isolate the small whooping-cough patients, they were given their meals with the other children, and permitted to roam freely over the ship. Even a suggestion that their stateroom be isolated was unheeded. In fact the surgeon when approached by the anxious parents, said it was an excellent thing for children to have whooping-cough, and were they his children he should willingly expose them to it.

Unfortunately, when upon reaching Shanghai, the exposed children became attacked, some of whom were members of prominent families, it was found that this optimistic idea was not shared by the Shanghai community, as the families in question were sent about from one hotel to another, avoided by their friends, and put to much inconvenience and expense to say nothing of the children's impaired health. There is little doubt that this state of things might have been avoided, by prompt avowal in the first instance and proper isolation on board ship.

I beg to ask if there is any redress, or remedy in such a case?

Are ships' officers irresponsible in case of illness on board ship, or should not some attention be paid to those ordinary rules of health, the enforcement of which is so urgently insisted upon on land?

I am, etc.,

A GLOBETROTTER.

30th June.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I have just read in your paper of this date, the communication bearing the above heading and as a lover of justice and a hater of misrepresentations, I desire to correct some of the presumably unintentional misstatements contained in the communication referred to.

"Globetrotter" implies that two children with the whooping-cough came aboard a well-known ship at San Francisco bound for this port, and forthwith there ensued a panic which sent the parents of the other children flying in alarm to the Captain and surgeon, who met their fears with ridicule and did nothing to protect them.

Now what are the facts. As far as known *no* child came aboard at San Francisco with the whooping-cough. One child had a cough, but there were no indications whatever that it was anything more than an ordinary cold. There was no alarm on the part of any of the passengers during the next six or eight days and the children were allowed to play freely together. After leaving Honolulu the cough showed marked symptoms and there was then no mistaking its character. The missionary children, at the request made to the surgeon by the parents of the other four children, were given a separate table. There were *not* "permitted to roam freely over the ship." As an eye-witness I can

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testify that the parents *at once* gave themselves up to the care and amusement of their children, at all times keeping their little ones away from the others. Their efforts were frustrated, at times, because the other "anxious" parents did not use the same diligence and care in this matter. After some days one of the other children commenced to cough and the anxious parents at once decided it was whooping-cough. And yet, strange as it may seem, there were no limitations put to her meanderings. She ate and played with the remaining three well children and was even allowed to caress and kiss her infant brother, and so it came about that long ere the ship reached Shanghai, and *not* after, "the exposed children, some of whom were members of prominent families, became attacked." I do not deny that, in all probability, the harm was done between San Francisco and Honolulu when the children spent days together, and when there was no suspicion on the part of any one of the oncoming of that disease which, though not dangerous itself, is always to be avoided because of its troublesome character. But I do contend that after the disease became "apparent to everyone" everything was done that justice or right could demand to safeguard the other children, and that the attack on the captain and surgeon contained in "Globetrotter's" letter, is both unjustifiable and unworthy a gentleman. Your correspondent speaks of "isolation." And pray, what does he mean by "isolation?" Would he have moved the sick ones into the steerage, or at least confined them to their stateroom, away from the sunlight and fresh air to be obtained on the saloon deck? He himself would be the first to resent such treatment had his children first come down with the disease.

"Globetrotter" may not be aware that one of these very same "anxious" parents was not, after all, so anxious, but that he committed almost the entire care of his infant to the stewardess (by what right, it would be interesting to know) who, in the performance of her duties, of course could not avoid coming into proximity with "the small whooping-cough patients," although she had been directed *not* to do so.

Let us have things fairly and truthfully represented.

I am, etc.,

A PASSENGER.

1st July.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN SPAIN.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The following extract from a stray leaf of the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, year 1882, will show something of the state of Spain 16 years ago, as given by one of her own physicians at the Medical Congress of Seville. The death rate given for Madrid of 400 per 1,000 is evidently that of infants under one year. Perhaps there has been a change since then. China does not seem so many thousand miles from Spain as would at first sight appear.

I am, etc.,

PROGRESS.

Hankow, 27th June.

Dr. Adame read his important communication on the *Cause of the Excessive Mortality of Children*, a problem equally interesting to the physician, the legislator, and the public administrator.

Dr. Robert said that Señor Adame had exhibited the evil, but the remedy proposed by him did not seem practicable, neither by the governors nor by individuals in their limited sphere of action. His attention had been for long fixed on the fact that Spain presents the greatest national mortality according to statistics. In Oviedo the deaths are 100 per 1000, the maximum in Madrid amounting to 400 per 1000. There must be something special in our native land to account for a mortality so excessive. Two circumstances are the principal factors in the enormous death rate of Spain—the want of the use of water, and the poor alimentation. Our country is an educated land, but is far from being an enlightened land. It must be confessed that the Spaniards are afflicted with hydrophobia. There are thousands and thousands who have never washed since they were born. May this not be one of the causes? On the other side, the races of our soil are frugal in general, but they abuse frugality. This is the country where they eat least. The field labourer feeds himself merely with sunshine and bread. There are others referable to morality. We wonder at the severity with which foreigners keep the Sabbath. On this day, with us, we work more or less irregularly, and on Sunday, instead of resting, if a current flows, it is certainly not to the fields, but to the *café*, the theatres, the taverns, and bull-fights, where no sun influence is received, but, in exchange, others which it is well to pass hastily, nor indicate closely, as being known of all. From all these reasons the means indicated to diminish the mortality are the following:—1.—Corporal cleanliness, baths, ablutions, to maintain the suitable organic tonicity. 2.—Augmenting the alimentation, improving it in quality, and making it economical. 3.—Complete rest on festival days, and seeking recreation in the country. 4.—Establishing public gymnasia everywhere, thereby resuscitating the Olympic Games.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The death rate 400 per 1,000 at Madrid mentioned by "one of Spain's own physicians" in the medical congress of Seville of 1882, as "Progress," to make it apparently more incontrovertible, notes in the letter you published this morning, did not refer to a normal state, but to an epidemic of diphtheria, its origin, what the causes of its virulence might be etc., Calamitous as that epidemic was, and not without similar ones in many European and American cities, it had nothing to do with certain criminal practices in China towards infants, which "Progress" is not ashamed to insinuate maliciously must have been the cause of the mortality of infants at Madrid. Although Madrid does not rank among the most favoured cities of Europe in low mortality, still medical statistics do not place it among the worst; and furthermore a large percentage of its death rate is due to pulmonary complaints, principally pneumonia, which have nothing to do with infections arising from a bad sanitary management of the city. Madrid is situated on the central table land of Spain, at an altitude of 2,000 feet, surrounded by a sandy, rocky country, with an exceedingly dry rarefied atmosphere, of which an old Spanish proverb says: "*que mata un hombre y no apaga un candil*," it kills a man while not blowing out a candle. The average annual rainfall is only 12 inches and the evaporation 65 inches. On the other hand I cannot understand how the death rate of one city can in good faith be twisted into the death rate of a whole Kingdom. "Progress" on application to any London bookseller will obtain books, pamphlets from English Medical men and others, and also the Reports of American and English Consuls, praising the climatic conditions and healthfulness of various places in the littoral of Spain, Malaga, for instance, the winter resort for hundreds of invalids sent there by the first medical men of England and northern Europe, while a large number of English families come yearly to Malaga not on account of illness but by choice once they have experienced how preferable it is to the renowned Riviera, as a healthy winter residence.

In some statistics I read quite recently in English papers, of the longevity and number of centenarians in the various countries of Europe, Spain stood at the head but two or three, while England although London claims to be superior to any of the European capitals in its sanitary conditions, was among the last.

Trusting that notwithstanding the aversion so constantly shown by the management of the *Daily News* to Spain and everything Spanish, this letter from a Spaniard will not be refused admission in its columns, and as I am not sufficiently *progressive* to screen myself when publishing my opinions, I sign my true name,

H. DE URIARTE.

2nd July.

Poetry.

IN MEMORIAM.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BORN DEC. 29, 1809. DIED MAY 19, 1898.

Some in the promise of an early prime,
Ere yet the first assault is dared and won,
Death takes with envious hand before their time,
Leaving the task undone.

Some, ripe in manhood, at their army's head,
As even now they touched the topmost tower,
With shining harness on have fallen dead
In victory's crowning hour.

But you, O veteran of a thousand fights,
Whose toil had long attained its perfect end—
Death calls you not as one that claims his rights,
But gently as a friend.

For though that matchless energy of mind
Was firm to front the menace of decay,
Your bodily strength on such a loss declined
As only Death could stay.

So then with you 'tis well, who after pain,
After long pain, have reached your rest at last;
But we—ah, when shall England mould again
This type of splendour past?

Noble in triumph, noble in defeat,
Leader of hopes that others held forlorn,
Strong in the faith that looks afar to meet
The flush of Freedom's morn—

Could we, Her own, forget you to our shame,
Lands that have lived to see Her risen sun
Remembering much should witness how your name
And Freedom's name are one.

But we shall not forget, nor Time erase
Your record deep in English annals set;
What severance marred your labour's closing days
Alone we shall forget.

And now, with all your armour laid aside,
Swift eloquence your sword, and, for your shield
The indomitable courage that defied
The fortune of the field—

As in the noontide of your high command,
So in the final hour when darkness fell,
Submissive still to that untiring Hand
That orders all things well—

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We bear you to your resting-place apart
Between the ranks where ancient foe and friend,
Kin by a common sorrow at the heart,
Silent together bend.

—*Punch.*

William Ewart Gladstone.

Born, Dec. 29, 1809. Died, May 19, 1898.

Quenched is the beacon-fire that flamed
so clearly on the hill;
The strong, the strenous heart that beat
so steadfastly is still:
The golden light had lingered long—the
sky is radiant yet,
But down behind the purple hills at last
the sun has set.

The fight is done; the fighter's sword no
foe could break or bend,
Has been surrendered but to Death—so
oft the brave man's friend;
And from the home he loved so well the
lightning flash has sped
To tell the world that watched so long—
to weep, for Gladstone's dead!

All we have lost full time will show when
grief has grown less keen,
'Tis but a vision, blurred and marred,
that can through tears be seen;
But even now, whilst sorrow's mist still
gathers round the tomb,
Like beams of sunlight, memories flash
to dissipate the gloom.

Even whilst mourning we recall how true
he was, how great,
How earnest in the cause of Right, how
zealous for the State;
How pure his aims, how strong his arm,
how grand the deeds he wrought,
As, bravest of Knights-errant, he for
Freedom fiercely fought,

We see him struggling for the truth, we
watch him in the fray—
Each morning an encounter new, a
triumph new each day.
We see him towering high above his
comrades and his foes;
We see him as "from strength to
strength" exultingly he goes.

And then we see him leave the field
where long his flag has flown,
Where his high courage found its match
in his good faith alone;
We see him turn t'wards home and rest,
and all the world draws nigh,
That he who taught it how to live may
teach it how to die.

And what a lesson it has been to watch
beside his bed,
To see in his bright, trustful eyes no
sign of mortal dread;
To hear from those poor fevered lips that
murmur for release
No word that does not breathe of love,
no message but of peace!

So is he conqueror to the end, this friend
for whom we mourn;
This Christian Statesman by the stress
of life so overborne;
When weakest he has strongest proved,
for he has overcome
The rabid hosts of Prejudice, and Rancour
has made dumb.

When he came back to his own roof,
stricken by Fate's fell darts,
'Twas then our splendid countryman
came home to all our hearts;
Censors and critics then forgot their
censure and their spleen;
All they remembered was how great an
Englishman he'd been;
The winds of Controversy dropped that
had around him rushed,
To a great silence all the cries of party
strife were hushed;
The smoke of battle disappeared, the
mists dispersed afar,
And from its firmament of faith his soul
shone like a star.

And so the close came slowly on till, at
the dawn of day,
His spirit, faithful unto death, passed
peacefully away;
And he, whom some had feared and some
had hated in the past,
Died, as became so pure a soul, beloved
by all at last.

Died, as became the people's guide and
champion and friend,
A plain, untitled Englishman, unchanging to the end;
Assured of this proud epitaph—what
nobler can we pen?—
"He only lived to labour for and help
his fellow men."

—*Truth.*

Miscellaneous.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE INLAND WATERS OF CHINA.

The following are the provisional rules agreed to by Sir Claude Macdonald for the navigation of the inland waters of China. It is possible that some modifications may be introduced into them on farther consideration:—

I. Registration.

1.—The inland waters of the Treaty port provinces are hereby opened to small steamers, native or foreign, plying from Treaty ports.

2.—Small steamers at Treaty ports, whether plying only in the waters of the port or going thence inland, are to be reported at the Customs and take out papers at the Customs containing owner's name and residence, name and type of steamer, number of crew, etc., etc, in addition to whatever national papers they are allowed or required by law to carry. Such Customs papers are to be renewed annually and are to be surrendered on change of ownership or when the vessel ceases to ply. The fee for the first issue of Customs papers will be Taels 10 and for each renewal Taels 2.

3.—Small steamers thus registered at the Customs may ply freely in the waters of the port without reporting their movements at the Customs, but if they go inland they must report both departure and return. No unregistered steamer will be allowed to proceed inland.

4.—As regards exhibition of lights, prevention of collisions, shipping of crews, and inspection of machinery, etc., all such steamers are to observe the rules in force at the port they belong to.

II. Revenue.

5.—Cargo shipped at Treaty ports is to be reported to the Customs and is to pay such duties as the Customs decide to be leviable. Cargo brought to a Treaty port from inland is to be similarly dealt with.

6.—Cargo landed or shipped inland is to pay at the place of landing or shipment, whatever dues or duties the local regulations call for.

7.—If such steamers have vessels in tow they must bring to at whatever stations the vessels towed are required to stop at for their own cargoes, and the cargoes of boats towed (are) to be dealt with as local rules prescribe. Such steamers are not to tow on the Yangtze.

THE SHANGHAI INLAND WATER COMPANY.

Amongst the many indications that China is awakening and beginning at last to realise how vast are the resources and advantages of Western civilisation, not the least striking is the establishment of a pure-water supply for the native city of Shanghai, a scheme to which we were able to make a brief reference in a recent issue. For centuries the inhabitants of this over-populated city have drawn their water from shallow wells, sunk in soil saturated with sewage, and the fact that no serious epidemic occurred can only be regarded as providential. Consequently the announcement that a modern system of water supply will speedily become an accomplished fact will be hailed with pleasure by everyone who has the health and welfare of these Settlements at heart; as with the outbreak of serious disease in the city the Settlements would assuredly suffer from both a commercial and a sanitary point of view. The idea of changing the old order of things originated with three or four Chinese with capital who formed themselves into a company with the above title. Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. were approached and they secured the services and advice of Mr. William Frank Hall, a well-known water engineer, to prepare plans and specifications for carrying out the work. Mr. Hall arrived from New York some few weeks ago and his plans were so lucid and satisfactory that a contract for carrying out the work was signed amounting to upwards of Tls. 600,000. The machinery necessary for the work is to be of the most modern description, and boilers, engines, etc., will be put in capable of supplying a service of four million gallons a day. In addition to that provision is made for an extension of the plant so that in the event of the population of the city increasing in any great degree another two million gallons per day can easily be supplied. The water will be taken from the Huangpu at the Arsenal on the ebb-tide so that an absolutely pure river water will be obtained. This will be first of all pumped into a settling basin and after a process of natural settling will be pumped up through a series of filter beds into a clear water reservoir and from thence carried through sixteen inch mains to the water tower, which will be located in the centre of the Chinese bund. The tower will be substantially the same as the familiar structure in the foreign Settlement, but will be made of steel instead of cast iron and though of much lighter construction will cost a great deal less whilst possessing the requisite stability. The whole of the iron work and machinery will be made by the Laidlaw-Dunn-Gordon Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, one of the largest firms of water engineers in xeistence, having constructed over 400 similar plants in all parts of the world. The general work of construction will be under the superintendence of Messrs. Atkinson and Dallas of Kiukiang Road under whose directions the scheme is already in progress. Mr. Hall leaves Shanghai on Saturday for New York by the *Empress of India* but will return in about four months to superintend the erection of the machinery.

Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture.—"The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. So of verywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware wortleehless imitations and substitutes.

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THE SHANGHAI-WOOSUNG RAILWAY.

Just now, when speculation is rife as to the opening of the Shanghai-Woosung Railway, it is well to give a few details concerning its position and progress and it was with that object that one of our representatives sought out and had a pleasant chat on Wednesday with one of the principal officials of the Imperial Chinese Railway Administration. As we announced some three months ago it was intended to open the line for all kinds of traffic at the commencement of this month and the fact that the undertaking will not be completed for six weeks or so is due entirely to breach of contract on the part of the Belgian firm entrusted with the manufacture and delivery of the rails and sleepers. Messrs. Cockerill, the contractors in question, undertook to deliver the whole of the rails, sleepers, fastenings, etc., not later than March last, but as a matter of fact they only arrived some three weeks ago. Hence the delay. The permanent way, stations and necessary appurtenances have been finished long ago, locomotives and passenger and freight cars have been in readiness and everything awaiting the arrival of the rails. It will thus be seen what an expense, and an unnecessary expense, has been incurred in consequence. The work, however, is now being pushed on rapidly and large gangs of coolies under the supervision of skilled Europeans are working from early morn to dewy eve constructing the road. Commencing at the Woosung end, something like two English miles has been laid and it is confidently expected that the line will be ready for traffic towards the end of August. Considerable difficulty is occasioned through the entire ignorance of the native workmen in the matter of plate-laying. In fact, hardly one in a thousand has ever seen a railway and everything has to be shown them. Then again numbers of them after working a few days discharge themselves, with the result that fresh labourers have to be employed and the work of instruction begun over again. Our readers will thus see what a contract for railway building means in this darksome land. When it is finished, however, there can be no doubt that it will be a great factor in the promotion of local commerce, in that a running plan has been mapped out showing ten passenger trains per day, either way, in addition to luggage trains. The locomotives are of the heavy American tank-type, manufactured by Messrs. Brooks, of Dunkirk, N. Y., whilst the cars and trucks, the former well fitted up and upholstered, have been made at the Railway Works in Tientsin where the much-talked-of "Royal train" of the irrepressible Empress Dowager was conceived. A responsible staff has been engaged, the locomotive department being under the control of Herr Richter, who has secured the services of native engine-drivers formerly employed on the diminutive Tayê Railway near Hankow. As all new ventures, and especially new in this case, generally involve heavy outlays through lack of knowledge of the local conditions, our representative endeavoured to elicit what would be the cost per mile as compared with European lines of a like character; but our informant was unable to speak with any show of definiteness. The cost of the land in the first place he was unaware of, but speaking generally he thought it would prove to be much cheaper than any home undertaking of the kind, owing to the fact that labour and such native materials as have been used are very much cheaper here. He was also unable to express an opinion as to the working cost per mile as compared with published statistics, but anticipated highly satisfactory returns from the passenger traffic. It would naturally take time to dislodge the goods traffic from the river, but in the end he thought they might safely count upon a big revenue under this head, owing to the rates being lower than lighterage dues and the delivery more expeditious. No effort is to be spared to make the line a success and we might add that plans have already been drawn up for comprehensive extensions. There is undoubtedly plenty of scope for railway enterprise in China and now that it has found favour in the eyes of the Government the entire opening up of this strange country should be a thing of the comparatively near future.

THE ANTI-OPIUM LEAGUE IN CHINA.

IN MEMORIAM OF THE REV. Y. K. YEN.

The Executive Committee of the Anti-opium League in China has learned with profound sorrow of the death of their esteemed colleague, the Rev. Y. K. Yen of Shanghai.

Mr. Yen was educated in the United States, receiving the degree of A. M. from his Alma Mater.

Returning to his native land, for over thirty years he has been an able minister of the Gospel.

By birth a Chinese, by education an American, trusted by his own brethren, and considered a wise counsellor by the missionary body, he occupied a conspicuous position as the Prince of Intermediaries between the Native and the Foreign church. Feeling deeply the misery brought upon his people by the curse of opium, for years he has been a prominent advocate of the anti-opium movement.

In 1894 by invitation he visited England in behalf of this cause, and his eloquent pleadings were heard by large audiences throughout the United Kingdom. At the time of his death he was a member of the Editorial Committee appointed to collect and publish the views of the physicians of China on the effects of the use of opium on the Chinese.

He had in contemplation the preparation of an urgent appeal to his countrymen for general organisation to resist the inroads of opium, but the hand of disease prevented its completion.

The Executive Committee desires to bear testimony to the faithfulness of our Brother as a minister and as a philanthropist and pray that among the Chinese many may be raised up to take his place in rescuing the millions addicted to the opium habit.

Adopted by the Executive Committee at a meeting held at the home of the Rev. T. A. Hearn.

J. N. Hayes,
Sec. A.-O. L.

Soochow, 28th June.

BOOKS ETC, RECEIVED.

The Marine Engineer's Thesaurus. By Will. Frank Cox. 8vo. 201 pp. Hongkong: Kelly & Walsh, Ld. 1898.

The Far East, June, 1898. The Nation's Friend Publishing Co., Tokio, Japan.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Reliable Remedies.—In wounds, bruises, sprains, glandular swellings, enlarged veins, neuralgic pains and rheumatism, the application of this soothing Ointment to the affected parts not only gives the greatest ease, but likewise cures the complaint. The Pills much assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and simliar painful disorders, whilst the Ointment cures the local ailment. The Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate every impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching yet harmless preparations. 22

THE FRENCH IN SOUTH CHINA.

TROUBLE AT KUANGCHOUWAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hoihow, 22nd June.

For some time there have been rumours in Hoihow that the French are meeting with much opposition from the natives in taking possession of their new naval station at Kuangchouwan.

One report says that the native pilot who brought the French war vessels into the Bay has been killed by his neighbours, and that all the members of his family have been severely dealt with.

The last report, which comes from a prominent native military offieial, says that the natives in the vicinity of Kuangchouwan refuse to sell provisions to the French, who compose the garrison, and that they are hostile in other ways, so much so that the Chinese officials have had to interfere to bring the natives into submission without a direct breach of the peace.—*China Mail.*

THE HANKOW TEA MARKET.

From Mr. William White's Report.

COMPARATIVE TEA SETTLEMENTS FOR 43 DAYS.

EXCHANGE AT 2/9½, FREIGHT 47/6.

1897.

Tls.	8 a 15=	4¼ a 6¼	...180,651	½-chests.
,,	15 a 20=	6¼ a 7¾	... 95,450	,,
,,	20 a 25=	7¾ a 9	... 71,009	,,
,,	25 a 30=	9 a 10½	... 56,650	,,
,,	30 a 35=	10½ a 11¾	... 43,573	,,
,,	35 a 40=	11¾ a 1/1½	... 31,412	,,
,,	40 a 45=	1/1½ a 1/2½	... 31,402	,,
,,	45 a 67=	1/2½ a 1/8½	... 34,782	,,
			544,929	,,

STOCK.

Hankow Tea,	1st crop	80,672	½-chests.
,,	2nd ,, ...	332	,,
Kiukiang Tea,	1st ,, ...	26,617	,,
,,	2nd ,, ...	—	,,
		107,621	,,
Arrivals,	1st crop	652,218	,,
,,	2nd ,, ...	332	,,
		652,550	,,

EXCHANGE AT 2/8, FREIGHT 52/6.

1898.

Tls.	9.30 a 15=	4½ a 6	110,602	½-chests.
,,	15 a 20=	6 a 7¼	152,754	,,
,,	20 a 25=	7¼ a 8½	111,370	,,
,,	25 a 30=	8½ a 9¾	61,910	,,
,,	30 a 35=	9¾ a 11	74,933	,,
,,	35 a 40=	11 a 1/0¼	26,481	,,
,,	40 a 45=	1/0¼ a 1/1½	41,244	,,
,,	45 a 70=	1/1½ a 1/8	55,177	,,

1st crop......630,184
2nd ,, ... 4,287
——634,471 ,,

STOCK.

Hankow Tea,	1st crop	22,947	½-chests.
,,	2nd ,, ...	4,565	,,
Kiukiang Tea,	1st ,, ...	4,336	,,
,,	2nd ,, ...	8,182	,,
		40,030	,,
Arrivals,	1st crop	657,467	,,
,,	2nd ,, ...	17,034	,,
		674,501	,,

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List of Tea Buyers in Hankow for 43 Days.

Messrs.	1898. ½-chests.
Molchanoff & Co.	150,693
Tokmakoff & Co.	119,444
Popoff Frères	48,769
Rodewald and Heath	38,703
Robt. Anderson & Co.	35,988
J. K. Panoff & Co.	34,213
F. S. Deacon & Co.	33,666
Evans Pugh & Co.	31,017
Theodor and Rawlins	25,012
Geo. Clark & Co.	21,964
Dodwell Carlill & Co.	14,572
Cheerkoff & Co.	14,154
Alex. Campbell & Co.	13,943
Reid Evans & Co.	11,718
Jardine Matheson & Co.	8,692
J. H. Craven	8,631
Scott Harding & Co.	7,937
Welch Lewis & Co.	5,226
Ramsay & Co.	5 223
Greaves & Co.	4,906
	634,471

Hankow, 23rd June, 1898.

THE SPANISH SQUADRON AT PORT SAID.

TWELVE WARSHIPS AND TROOPERS.

Hongkong, 28th June.

Admiral Camara's Squadron for the relief of the Philippines, has arrived at Port Said. Last night Consul-General Wildman received a telegram intimating that fact from Mr. Broadbent, U. S. Consul at Port Said. The telegram states there are now twelve warships and troopers in port and gives the following as the names of the vessels:—*Pelayo, Emperador Carlos V, Rapido, Andazasado, Prosperpina, Coradonga, Patriolo, San Francisco, Buenos Aires, Colon,* and *Isla de Panay.* The *Pelayo* is a twin-screw battleship, built at La Seyne in 1887, of 9,900 tons. The *Emperador Carlos V* is a most useful type of ship, having been built at Cadiz in 1895. She is of 9,090 tons, and can develop a speed of 20.25 knots. The others are unarmoured cruisers and torpedo boats, and five transports. The Spanish squadron having reached a neutral port, it remains to be seen what steps are to be taken with regard to the supply of coal to a belligerent fleet. In the event of the refusal of the Egyptian Government to allow the fleet to be supplied with coal, it is questionable if the ships will have sufficient in their bunkers to carry them back to a Spanish port, and they may lie at Port Said for some considerable time in utter helplessness. So long as they remain in this neutral port they are in perfect safety, far safer than their position would be in a Spanish port, for the Americans may take advantage of the absence of the squadron, containing several of the reserve ships, to send a flying squadron across the Atlantic and strike a decisive blow in Spanish waters. Before the war can be brought to a conclusion, the Spanish fleet must be annihilated, and in the event of an American fleet being sent to European waters, Admiral Camara's squadron could hardly be in a more secure place of safety than Port Said.—*China Mail.*

"For the Blood is the Life."—Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations.

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OUR FUTURE KING,

BY

CHARLES LOWE, M.A.

(Author of "William II." "Prince Bismarck," &c.)

V.

THE PRINCE'S PASTIMES.

We have already seen how well the Prince of Wales comported himself in India with his rifle, with which he brought down bucks, elephants, and "man-eaters," or tigers, and how he also "got his spear" at pig-sticking, the finest of all our Anglo-Indian pursuits. For H. R. H. is a typical Englishman in his love of, and it may be added his excellence at, all kinds of field sports, especially shooting, to which he took very early, so that at the age of fifteen he was said to be the best shot in his family. From the Thuringian Forest his father had brought with him to England a considerable passion for the chase, and at Balmoral the boy Prince used to accompany him in his deer-stalking expeditions among the glens and corries of "dark Lochnagar." To such a pitch of excellence did the Prince at last carry his stalking skill that he once made a bag of seven stags in one day in Mar Forest, the property of his son-in-law, the Duke of Fife, while, with a single shot, he slew the "King of the herd" of famous wild cattle in Chillingham Park, and at Bhurtpore in India he brought down a nylghau at 115 yards.

An excellent and long enduring deer-stalker, the Prince can also hold his own with the best on the grouse moors of the Highlands, while he has made some astonishing records at covert-shooting in England. His own estate of Sandringham is, for its size (8,000 acres), one of the finest sporting properties in the Kingdom, and one of his chief pleasures is to entertain shooting parties there. In the season of 1885-6 the total bag was 16,131 head, including 7,252 pheasants, of which ten thousand are annually reared at Sandringham; and the results of a day's slaughter are generally distributed between hospitals, private friends, tenants, employees, and London tradesmen connected with the royal household. The Prince himself has shot all over England, and has probably a bigger slaughter record than any other man in the Kingdom.

THE PRINCE AS FARMER.

But shooting is by no means the Prince's only pastime in the country. He has also paid considerable attention to the practical aspects of farming, and, as President of the Royal Agricultural Society, he takes his duties very seriously. "It is impossible," he once said, "for any British gentleman to live at his country place without taking an interest in agriculture, and in all those things which concern the farmers of this great country." Indeed, in many respects, the Prince of Wales resembles his great grand-father, George III, who was familiarly known as "Farmer George" on account of his rural tastes and amusements. It was by farming and the management of his property that Bismarck trained himself for the management of an Empire, and it also bodes well for the future kingship of the Prince of Wales that he has already proved so excellent a ruler of his own land, which is now in a very different condition from what it was when first he bought it, and is, indeed, a model estate from every point of view. The Allotment Act was practically anticipated by the Prince of Wales in the treatment of his own tenants, who are perhaps the most contented class of men of their kind in the whole Kingdom. If, when he comes to the throne, the Prince only satisfies his subjects half as well as he has pleased his tenants, he will prove even a more successful and popular king than his ancestor, "Farmer George."

Moreover, like the good farmer and country squire that he is, the Prince has always had a genuine love for hunting those foxes, which, for want of hounds, he has been compelled to shoot in Denmark. When studying at Oxford he always hunted with Lord Macclesfield's pack, and, indeed, there are few packs in England with which he has not hunted. But though a fearless and eager rider, the Prince has never become specially identified with the hunting field, and in recent years, owing perhaps to increasing weight, he has rarely been seen at the covert side, save, perhaps, when there is a meet at Sandringham, the most popular in all Norfolk, when their Royal Highnesses show themselves patterns of rural hospitality.

Once, indeed, the Prince had rather a narrow escape. As the guest of the French Emperor he was attending a stag hunt at Compiègne, and as he was galloping along one of the grassy glades of the forest, a stag rushed out from one of the cross-paths and knocked him and his horse completely over. Though much bruised and shaken he was not hurt, so without saying anything to alarm those about him, he was quick to remount and hunt to the end of the day.

Some very hard things have been said of the Guelphs, but even such bitter critics of the race as Carlyle and Thackeray were free to admit that they have never been wanting in pluck and personal courage; and perhaps if there were no constitutional difficulties in the way, we might yet be fired to an unparallelled pitch of loyal enthusiasm by the spectacle of our future King imitating the example of his ancestor, George II, who was the last English sovereign to gird on his sword and go forth at the head of a British army to do strenuous battle with the alien.

YACHTING.

Assiduous as a soldier, the Prince of Wales is no less ardent as a sailor, and is quite as proud of his rank as Admiral of the Fleet as of his title of Field-Marshal. He is the Commodore of three yacht clubs, and he it was who instituted the challenge cup for British and American yachts, which bears his name. No one in all England has done more than the Prince of Wales, by encouragement and precept, to recover the America Cup, and as he is the chief patron, so also he is the main pillar of aquatic sport in this country. The Regatta Week at Cowes, after "glorious Goodwood," forms the official close of the London season, and the Prince of Wales never by any chance misses being then in the Solent, where his burgee, like the snowy plume of Henry of Navarre, may ever be seen streaming in the forefront of the fight. With his schooner *Hildegarde*, in 1877, he won the coveted Queen's Cup, which is annually presented by Her Majesty to the Royal Yacht Squadron (of which the Prince is Commodore); while in 1880 he again secured this "Holy Grail" of the sea with his cutter *Formosa* and he has repeatedly won it with his famous cutter *Britannia* which enabled him to "rule the waves" wherever he flew his colours from Plymouth Sound to the Solent, and from Cannes to the Clyde. Nor is the Prince a yachtsman of the purely ornamental and cutter-owning type. For on great racing occasions he generally goes on board himself, and can hold his own at steering with the best of skippers.

THE TURF.

From the racers of the deep to the racers of the turf the transition is natural; and at Newmarket the Prince is just as well known as he is at Cowes. On all the chief race-courses of the Kingdom his colours are familiar—as, indeed they well may be so in the case of a man who has deserved so well of his country as the

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Prince of Wales is the impetus he has given to the breeding of horses by the starting, many years ago, of a thoroughbred, a half-bred and a shire horse stud. H.R.H. has been a member of the Jockey Club for thirty years, but it was not till 1877 that the Princess went to Newmarket to see her husband's colours carried for the first time, though not triumphantly, by *Alep*, a pure bred Arab. Five years later, however, he won the Household Brigade Cup at Sandown with *Fairplay*. In 1890 Lord Marcus Beresford was entrusted with the control of the Prince's racing stable, and to his able management may be attributed most of the successes which now began to be recorded for the royal colours, though H.R.H. himself is held to be just as shrewd a judge of horse-flesh as he is of men. His Derby Day dinner at Marlborough House, with its £20,000 worth of silver plate, is more than one of the chief social functions of the season; it has come to be a kind of national institution.

But it was not till 1896 that his own guests, fifty in number, were able to drink the health of their princely entertainer as the winner of the Derby with *Persimmon*. If a visit to India had been "the dream," the winning of the blue ribbon of the turf had equally been "the hope" of his life; and his victory at last was hailed with the utmost enthusiasm, not only on Epsom Downs, but also throughout the whole Empire. Never had the Prince been more popular than on the day when *Persimmon*, ridden by Watts, carried his colours first past the winning post, and even some Radical prints were forced to the rueful admission that this magnificent racehorse had done a great, if unconscious, service to the British monarchy. The "Black Prince" was not more popular on his return from Crecy than was the Prince of Wales on his return from Epsom. His victory had touched some of the deepest instincts, political and social, in the hearts of Englishmen, who—now that their Prince, their representative man, had won on Epsom Downs—were more than willing to forget that he had ever lost at Tranby Croft.

THE TRANBY CROFT CASE.

His winnings on the turf hitherto have been considerable—ranging, as we are told, from £624 in 1890, to £4,148 in 1891, and £8,281 in 1895. It was known that the Prince was addicted to all the pastimes of the turf—with their risks of profit and loss, and it also came to be revealed to the nation at large that he was given to indulging in other forms of gambling, which was welcome food to the gossips who were fain to believe that the Heir to the Throne had become involved in debt, and that he had repeatedly had to be relieved from his embarrassments by Hebrew financiers. Fuel was only added to the fire of this calumny—for calumny it was—by the revelations connected with the Tranby Croft case, which was tried before Lord Chief Justice Coleridge and a special jury in the summer of 1890, and in which the witnesses included the Heir to the Throne. This was the second occasion on which the Prince had been cited to give his evidence in a court of law in the course of fifteen years, his first appearance in the witness-box—from which he emerged with a pure conscience and a purged character—having been rendered necessary in consequence of certain charges connected with the Mordaunt divorce. But the Tranby Croft case which involved a charge of cheating at cards against Sir William Gordon-Cumming—and of which the trial, adverse to him, occupied seven long days—was of a much more scandalous and compromising character, seeing that it resulted in revelations which shocked the conscience of the nation and placed the Heir to the Throne in a light unfavourable to his unimpaired popularity. It was the character of the private pastimes to which he had taken, and of the company to which he had descended, more than condescended, that seemed to blur the popular ideal of the Prince; and the *Times* only expressed the unanimous opinion of the nation when, in commenting on the case, it wrote with an outspokenness which was imitated by the rest of the Press:—

"We are but expressing the universal feelings of the millions of Englishmen and Englishwomen whose wish is, in Lord Coleridge's words, to keep our institutions sacred and respectable, when we say that we profoundly regret that the Prince should have been in any way mixed up, not only in the case, but in the social circumstances which prepared the way for it. We make no comment upon his conduct toward Sir William Gordon-Cumming. What does concern, and indeed distress, the public is the discovery that the game was apparently played with his counters, specially taken down for the purpose; that his 'set' are a gambling, a baccarat-playing set. We admit that, as a rule, the public has little or no concern with the private life of any one. But, unfortunately, a Prince of Wales is an exception to that rule. He cannot put off his responsibilities when he puts off his official dress. He is, next to the Queen, the most visible embodiment of the monarchical principle, and any personal default of his gives a shock to the principle which in these democratic days is mischievous, even dangerous. Sir William Gordon Cumming was made to sign a declaration that he would never touch a card again. We almost wish, for the sake of English society in general, that we could learn that the result of this most unhappy case had been that the Prince of Wales had signed a similar declaration."

But, as usual in similar cases, public inferences went very much further than were at all warranted by the facts of the case; and the quidnuncs now jumped to the conclusion that, after all, there must be some truth in the ever recurrent rumours as to the involved state of the Prince's affairs. It was assumed that if he gambled at all, whether on the turf or at the card table, he was bound to lose, and that his losses had repeatedly tempted him to seek relief from the Queen, or the country, or even the Semitic magnates of the Stock Exchange—ever ready, as parvenus are, to purchase social recognition, especially in the highest circles, with an obsequious loan.

I confess I never met a sensible man who was not sceptical on the subject of those rumours. But what we do know for certain is the fact that when, in 1889, a special parliamentary grant of £36,000 was made to the Prince on behalf of his family so as to obviate all future demands for annuities, on the marriage of each of his children, the Parliamentary Committee, who then investigated his affairs, seemed to be generally of opinion that he had managed well.

A PRINCE OF WORKERS.

Our future King has well earned the right to the innocent pastimes and pleasures alluded to in my previous article, for the Prince of Wales is also a Prince of Workers. His working *rôle* has been a working *rôle* of the hardest kind. It is well-known that his brother-in-law, the late Emperor Frederick, sickened and died of mere inanition, rusted and fell to pieces for the simple reason that he had nothing to do, nothing to keep his faculties fresh and provide his energies with a fitting outlet. But certainly the same cannot be said of the Prince of Wales, who is one of the most active men in all the Kingdom. Doubtless, like the German Crown Prince, he had been kept aloof from the political councils of his royal mother and her Cabinet. He was not entrusted with those confidential services, as private adviser to, and practical co-worker with, Her Majesty, which had been fulfilled by the Prince Consort. But in most other respects, he had to step into the shoes of his deceased father as the performer of public functions, the more so as his grief-stricken mother practically withdrew into private life after the death of her deeply adored husband. As Mr. Gladstone once said in Parliament: "Circumstances have tended to throw upon the Prince of Wales an unusual amount of public duty, and every call has been honourably and devotedly met."

The mere enumeration of the functions at which the Prince has thus figured at this call of public duty would fill volumes—reviews attended, exhibitions opened, foundation-stones laid, meetings presided over, journeys undertaken, statues unveiled, dinners eaten and speeches made, buildings and public works inaugurated, factories inspected, receptions held, and a thousand and one other functions performed. But with all his public labour, the Prince, perhaps, has been most conspicuous as a patron, organiser, and opener of exhibitions, which may be said to have been the creation of his father. As a boy of ten, at the side of his royal parents, he had witnessed the inauguration of the first "world's-fair" in Hyde Park, and his imagination was fired with the ambition of continuing the work which his father had begun. Soon after his marriage we find him connected with minor enterprises of a similar kind—like the South London Industrial Exhibition which he opened in 1865, and later on with great shows at Leeds, Nottingham, Liverpool, and a score of other towns.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

But his work in this respect on the grand scale may be said to have begun with the Vienna Exhibition of 1873. Here he was Chief British Commissioner, and if, as one writer has said, the British department was ready much in advance of nearly all the others, and the English show, on the whole, one of the most striking features of the Exhibition, this was largely due to the personal work and enthusiasm of the Prince of Wales. For whatever the Prince undertakes he does with his whole heart. None of his positions of this kind have ever been sinecures; and above all things his habit of mind is that of a business man. As chairman of a meeting he has few equals. A stickler for etiquette, said one who knew him well, he conducts the proceedings in a perfectly business-like manner, and although he never betrays any consciousness of being bored, his influence works for brevity.

If the Vienna Exhibition of 1873 was for the Prince a great success, that of Paris, in 1878, was a perfect triumph. As President of the British Commission, H.R.H. was indefatigable in his efforts to promote the monster show. He paid several visits to Paris during its preparatory stage; and spent weeks in his country's department examining, arranging, suggesting, altering, deciding; and when it was all over he and his colleagues were entertained at a grand banquet by the British exhibitors who felt, as they said, "very deeply indebted for his personal exertions." On the same occasion he was equally complimented by the French Minister of Commerce; and when the Prince replied in French, congratulating France on the great success of her monster "world's-fair," he fairly carried by storm the hearts of the Parisians.

But the Prince achieved equal popularity with the Londoners for the open-air entertainment—the first of its kind—which he provided for them in connection with the series of South Kensington Exhibitions of his promotion, commencing with the "Fisheries" in 1883, and culminating in what was called the "Colinderies" (short for Colonial and Indian). The "Fisheries" (which was followed by an equally successful "Healtheries") resulted in a clear profit of £15,000, of which two-thirds were devoted to relieve the orphan families of fishermen. As for the "Colinderies,"

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which also resulted in a net surplus of £35,000, it was opened by the Queen herself in the Albert Hall, to the accompaniment of a special ode, written by Lord Tennyson, set to music by Sir A. Sullivan, and sung by Madame Albani; and when the Prince, in his opening address, referred to "a similar ceremony (the first Exhibition of 1851) presided over by your Majesty but a few paces from this spot five-and-thirty years go," the Queen burst into tears and embraced the son who had walked so worthily in the footsteps of his father, "Albert the Good." As a matter of fact, the Prince of Wales, through his energetic promotion of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, had given an impetus to the imperial idea which now became the dominant note in the music of our foreign policy, and which shortly afterwards found architectural expression in that magnificent Imperial Institute, whereof the idea emanated from the Heir to the Throne, as a fitting means of commemorating the Jubilee of his royal mother, and promoting the federation of the British Empire. Nothing could have been more gratifying to the nation than the recent appointment of the Prince of Wales to preside over the Royal Commission of noblemen and gentlemen formed to promote the interests of Great Britain and the Colonies at the Paris Exhibition of 1900.

A CHAMPION OF THE DISTRESSED.

It may almost be said of the Prince of Wales that he has been a king before his time—a *roi des queux*, or King of the Beggars, seeing that he has ever done so much to champion the cause of the distressed. As he once declared: "The time has come when class can no longer stand aloof from class, and that man does his duty best who works most earnestly in bridging over the gulf between different classes, which it is the tendency of increased wealth and increased civilisation to widen." As his maiden speech in the House of Lords had been about the condition of the poor so, perhaps, the public office to which he devoted most pains was his membership of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes. At the sittings of this Commission he was a diligent attendant, and for the purposes of the enquiry he visited slums in St. Pancras and Holborn, the condition of some dwellings in which he described as perfectly disgraceful. His patronage and the prestige of his name have been sought for, nor sought in vain, for almost all the great benevolent movements of the time; and perhaps the crowning effort of his noble-hearted philanthropy was his initiation of the London Hospital Fund to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of his mother—a fund which, in less than a year, swelled to considerably over a quarter of a million sterling.

I repeat that it would require a huge volume to give a bare enumeration of the occasions on which the Prince of Wales has proved himself a zealous minister of the public weal; and the most wonderful thing about his public appearances is that he has never been known to commit a single serious mistake of taste or judgment. He always does the right thing for few men have ever been gifted in such a pre-eminent degree with the virtues of tact and common sense which, as the French say, is by no means so common as is generally supposed. In fact the character which Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman gave the Duke of Cambridge on his resignation of the post of Commander-in-Chief fits the Prince of Wales like a glove. "There are two qualities," said the late Secretary for War, "which in my opinion are the most important that any public man, and especially any public servant, can enjoy. One of them is supposed to be inborn, though I doubt it; the other is acquired. They come, in my opinion, before talent; they are better than zeal; they are as rare as they are essential. They are constantly spoken of, but never defined. We know them by the vague titles of common sense and knowledge of the world."

A MULTIPLICITY OF LABOURS.

Perhaps I cannot convey a better idea of the multiplicity and severity of the Prince's public labours than by quoting what was said of him by the *Times* on the occasion of his visit to Ireland in 1868, which was but a type of hundreds of others of the same kind in other parts of the United Kingdom:

"There were presentations and receptions, and receiving and answering addresses, processions, walking, riding, and driving, in morning and evening, military, academic, and mediæval attire. The Prince had to breakfast, lunch, dine, and sup, with more or less publicity, every twenty-four hours. He had to go twice to races, with fifty or a hundred thousand people about him; to review a small army and make a tour in the Wicklow mountains, of course, everywhere receiving addresses under canopies and dining in State under galleries full of spectators. He visited and inspected institutions, colleges, universities, academies, libraries, and cattle shows. He had to take a very active part in assemblies of from several hundred to several thousand dancers, and always select for his partners the most important personages. . . . He had to listen to many speeches sufficiently to know when and what to answer. He had to examine with respectful interest pictures, books, antiquities, relics, manuscripts, specimens, bones, fossils, prize-beasts, and works of Irish art. He had never to be unequal to the occasion, however different from the last, and whatever his disadvantage as to the novelty or dulness of the matter and scene."

I have referred to the Prince's visit to Dublin in 1868 as a typical instance of the crushing multiplicity of his public labours, and I may instance the case of another of his visits to Ireland (in 1885) as a striking example, among many others, of his public courage. The Phœnix Park murders had been perpetrated but three years before, and the country was still in a state of ferment with its Separatist aspirations. It was with a view of calming the prevailing excitement that the Prince and Princess of Wales with their eldest son, at the suggestion of the Government, decided to pay another visit to the "distressful country;" and to this courageous intention they adhered in spite of the express and unanimous disapproval which the contemplated step evoked from the members of the Nationalist party, and which had even the effect of producing riots and other anti-pathetic demonstrations. But the Prince flinched not from his purpose, and returned home with a cubit added to his moral stature in the estimation of his English countrymen.

AN UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADOR.

This had been a mission above "the immense mass of routine work of the royal goose-step order which the Prince has always done with a punctiliousness worthy of all praise." It had also been a mission within the United Kingdom itself. But how numerous, also, have been the errands, half personal, half diplomatic, which have also carried the Prince into foreign parts—to all the chief capitals of Europe as the bearer of congratulation or of condolence to the relatives or fellow sovereigns of his royal mother. As the most typical and beneficent of all these foreign missions take the Prince's attendance at the funeral of the late Russian Emperor, Alexander III, in the winter of 1894-5, when the *rôle* which he played at St. Petersburg struck all Europe as an international triumph of the highest kind for the policy of England and her future relations with the Empire of the Tsars. France was certainly the country most perturbed by the apparent results of the Prince of Wales's mourning mission to Russia, and these results were well summed up by the St. Petersburg correspondent of a Paris journal when he wrote:—

"No other Prince in the world, perhaps, likes his ease better than the Heir to the English throne, yet see the terrible task undertaken by him for more than a fortnight, from Livadia to the day of the funeral of Alexander III, accompanying the Russian family twice a day to the religious ceremonies solemnised before the open coffin of the late Emperor, and after each service mounting the steps of the catafalque behind the Empress and Nicholas II to kiss the brow of the august deceased. His attitude was not less remarkable in the private circle of the Anitchkoff Palace. There he endeavoured, after each of these sad ceremonies, to effect a consoling reaction against grief, being affectionate towards all, and even going the length of playing with the children. This attitude was certainly deliberate, but who can say that it was not sincere? How could it help being highly appreciated, and how could it help bearing fruit? The Russian Royal family, particularly the Emperor Nicholas and the Empress, are deeply grateful for it. Ties have been formed in these days of mourning, and they have assumed a political character which will perhaps last longer than is imagined, and which, as the first result, have inspired the two countries with a desire to live on friendly terms."

After this who shall say that the Prince and his office "form part of the wasted wealth of King Demos?"

OUR INTERESTS IN THE EAST.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE.

Effects of the War between China and Japan—The Siberian Railroad and the Diversion of Traffic which it may cause—The "Open Door" in China—Terms of Treaty.

Shanghai, China, 8th April.

When the head of the Corean Government recently decided that he would no longer be called King but Emperor, it may have been supposed that, in assuming a higher title of dignity, he would be more assertive of the independence of his country, but unhappy Corea continues the prey of civil factions and diplomatic contentions. The rival factions fight their battles about the palace with the daggers of assassins, and the diplomats of civilised nations look on with complacency for an advantageous move on the board of diplomacy. Thus do events pass in the Hermit Kingdom.

And so when Japan had whipped China, and was preparing to remove the great barrier to the advance of civilisation in Asia, the enlightened nations of Continental Europe intervened, and China turned over to go to sleep again. The superstition and conservatism of more than four thousand years were about to be uprooted, but the steady and resolute hand that was uplifted to pave a new way on which China was to walk was stayed by the intervention of the European powers, whose diplomacy and cannon for more than a century had failed to accomplish what Japan had accomplished in one year.

Had the cannon of the Japanese sounded within the walls of Peking, China would have been so thoroughly shaken that she would never again have attempted to close her eyes; there would have been such an awakening as was never talked or written of by any of her statesmen.

But Japan was not allowed to do what would have been best for China and best

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for the civilisation of Asia. The realisation of the advantages won by the Japanese in behalf of a higher civilisation was delayed by the opposing influence of three principal nations of Continental Europe, and the fact is stated accurately. What Japan did accomplish proves the enlarged views of Japanese statesmen, and that territorial possessions and exclusive commercial advantages were not the controlling motives of their policy; one has only to read the treaty between Japan and China to be convinced that Japan was seeking such strategical positions as would safeguard her future; but these were subordinated to the aim of opening up China to commerce, for Western merchants could not import machinery into China until Japan secured the right for all merchants, although Western diplomats had been contending for such a right more than a quarter of a century.

The blow dealt China by Japan so exposed the weakness of the former that the world was amazed how Chinese statesmen had concealed it and played a successful bluff game under the very eyes of their most astute rivals; but, now the mask has been pulled off. China is presented like a whale made powerless by internal corruption and floundering under the carving of diplomatic sharks. No mercy is shown, and it seems little is felt. The world is mad because so long and completely fooled by China and is ready to revenge itself because it was fooled, and the indulgence of the revenge has commenced. This is the way it is going on.

Soon after the China-Japan war there was an undercurrent of talk that China had entered into a secret treaty with Russia, in which very important privileges were granted in consideration for Russia's assistance in turning the Japanese out of the Liaotung Peninsula. The existence of such a treaty was denied, but somehow the terms were published in a Shanghai paper and were stated thus.

1.—An offensive and defensive alliance, allowing Russia full use of Chinese harbours and arsenals, with liberty to buy houses and engage coolies. If other powers remonstrate China will plead *force majeure*.

2.—China leases Russia Port Arthur, Kiaochou or any harbour in Kiangsu or Chekiang, and provides the Russian ships with Chinese linguists.

3.—When China is in difficulties Russia will come to her assistance.

4.—Russian officers to have free movement in Manchuria.

5.—Russia may continue the Siberian Railway to Talienwan or some other convenient point, giving China the right to purchase after fifteen years.

6.—Russia may erect forts in China south of Vladivostock to protect the Siberian Railway.

8.—Russia may march troops to Corea across the Yalu River.

9.—China gives every facility to Russian commerce by the Siberian Railway.

10.—Russia lends officers to drill Chinese troops in Manchuria, Chihli, Shantung, Shansi, Shensi, and Kansu.

If the secret treaty never existed the ten provisions are being carried out. In an article which was published in the *North American Review*, July, 1897, this writer referred to the diplomatic achievements of Count Cassini, the then Russian Minister at the capital of China; and in a personal note to a high official in the Department of State, anterior by several months in date, I wrote that Russia had made a treaty with China, and that there was more in it than the public were disposed to believe. There is a great deal in the treaty containing the ten provisions herein given, and Russia has made up her mind to enforce fulfilment of every provision.

If the reader will take a map and examine it in connection with the ten provisions named, their comprehensive character cannot fail to impress him. Physically and commercially they entrench Russia in China, and whether obtained when China was in *duress* is not a question for Russian consideration. To-day the Russian flag floats over Port Arthur, and the nation that pulls it down must be stronger than Russia. It was unfurled there when Great Britain was displaying within cannon sound the most powerful naval squadron that ever breasted the waves of Asian seas, and when British orators were eloquent in opposition, as were also British statesmen, but Russia quietly advanced and planted her flag on the shores of the Pacific. What was thought to have been a dream of Peter the Great has developed on the page of geography in lines of reality, and, whatever the opinion of Russia, the admiration is excited by a policy so steadily pursued and so masterfully executed. The occupation of Port Arthur and the completion of the Siberian Railway to the Pacific Ocean will prove a pivot of history, and as commerce is a great civilising agency, why will not the world be benefited when the medium of commerce is extended and enlarged?

Heretofore Siberia has existed as barren and unproductive, but already industrial developments evidence that it possesses rich mines of gold, iron, and coal which have been neglected because labour and machinery did not admit of their being worked with profit: but the Siberian Railway will open a new route and a new horizon for universal as well as for Russian trade. A trade route that will connect 400 million Chinese, 40 million Japanese and 15 million Coreans with Europe through Russia is indeed a pivot upon which civilisation and commerce will turn. The way of the Russian through snow and over the bleak plains where he has shivered through life has been cut to warmer climates, and a more comforting light for him will pour through that way. The economic struggle which has been going on for the markets of the Pacific has ended in the Pacific Ocean, and Russia is the greatest victor. The Canadian railway appropriated part of the freights of silks, teas and furs which previously reached Europe through the Suez Canal; but now the larger proportion of these freights will reach Europe over the Siberian Railway, and this change in the direction of the traffic between Europe and Eastern Asia will enrich Russia in influence and wealth. If Russia owned only the roadbed of the Siberian Railway it would be a controlling factor in her development and enrichment; but by virtue of treaties with China, Russian influence will be potential in Manchuria and North China, practically owning those sections of China, the question of the effect of the influence of such possessions upon the course of history can only be answered by the future.

In the game of diplomacy played for political and commercial advantage in China, Great Britain has stood for the autonomy of China. British statesmen have proclaimed from official positions that the integrity of the Chinese Empire must be preserved even if it meant war, but the threat failed to daunt any of the Continental powers that had been whetting their knives for three years to carve up China.

The first pretext to slice off a piece of China was given Germany when two German missionaries were murdered in the Province of Shantung by Chinese, and then it was that Germany seized Kiaochou, and exacted a lease from China for it for 99 years. Kiaochou is a bay suitable for a naval anchorage, and is a strategical position of great importance, and the possession will make German influence in the Province of Shantung practically controlling in all business matters.

And now Great Britain, convinced that her warlike threat has not scared anyone, has also, in the name of a lease for twenty-five years, sliced off from China the best naval and military position on her soil—Weihaiwei. This position is now in the possession of Japan, but as security only for the payment of the Chinese indemnity, for the discharge of which Great Britain and Germany have loaned China money. In a short time China will have paid her debt to Japan, and awake to find herself owing large sums of money to Russia, Germany, Great Britain and France, and in addition with these nations in possession of her best strategical positions and dominating her political and business policy. Never in history has China confided her interest to such friends as have leased her soil and loaned her money. What piece of China France will lease has not been definitely determined; but it soon will be, and then if China is not extinguished by the "loving kindness" of the four nations named, she will have escaped the worst scrape she ever was in.

The situation is interesting. It was hoped that China would be opened up by the Saxon and that Chinese would be imbued with the healthy energy of Saxon civilisation; but it appears that the agencies of other civilisations will enter into the work though whatever changes take place will in all probability be for the good of China.

T. R. JERNIGAN, in the New York *Journal of Commerce*.

CYCLING ROUND THE WORLD.

EIGHTY-FIRST ARTICLE.

ON THE GREAT NEVADA DESERT.

AMONG THE COW-BOYS AND REDSKINS.

Battle Mountain, Nevada.

We were now on the skirts of the Nevada desert, stretching eastwards seven hundred miles, a land of barrenness and despair, powdered and bleached with alkali, no drinking water for two hundred and fifty miles, not a blade of grass, no vegetation but dwarf sagebush—a region on which a curse seemed to rest.

It was to be a dash across this land of blight. "I don't envy you your journey," everybody said, "you will die of thirst."

We could only smile. How often had similar things been said within the last two years! We loaded our water bottles, made our coats and vests into a bundle, tucked up our sleeves, and were off. In front heaved an ocean of wilderness. On each side, twenty miles away, rose bare burnt hills. The road was of sand and shingle, and riding was hard. The sky was white with heat, and the sun waves rolled on the plain like breaths from a furnace. The sand blew in one's eyes. One's tongue became coated with alkali, and one's throat felt rusty, parched, and cracked. The saliva was thick and gluey, and caked the roof of the mouth.

All the world was silent excepting the squeak of the sand squirrel.

Twenty miles on we reached huts on the railway track. Here lived men who kept the line in repair, half a dozen of them. Every ten or fifteen miles are these outcast colonies. The men are Italians or Japanese or Germans, with an Irishman usually as boss. The are absolutely cut off from the world. Nobody comes that way but tramps; no trains ever stop, save twice a week, when water is brought and provisions. All day long the men trudge up and down the line attending to repairs. They have no books, no refinement; no gentleness ever enters their lives. Now and then they make excursions to a mining camp and give a few days to "raising Cain and playing hell." They are rough, fearing neither God nor man. They laugh at death.

At this first section house we found John Chinaman installed as general servant and

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cook. We wanted food and said we would pay for it. John was scared. He declared there was none, and then that he could give it only with permission of the boss. The customary insult, however, in hard cash, cleared away objections. But when he went to prepare a meal he carefully locked all the doors and left us outside. We told him if he didn't unlock the door at once and admit us—we were choking and wanted a drink—we would pull the whole place down about his ears. He opened the door.

In the afternoon we pushed swiftly—that is, at about eight miles an hour—over the blistering sand. The perspiration streamed down our cheeks. A breeze blew the alkali dust into our faces, and they smarted like salt in a wound. One's lips hardened, cracked, and bled, and took on a bluish-white tinge. Smothered with dust, and with machines running hard, with sand getting into the chain and bearings, we pulled up at Wadsworth, a little railway hamlet, where engine drivers and conductors going east or west change. It was an oven of a place.

Here we came in contact with Red Indians! The Red Indian was the first foreigner we knew anything about as small boys. In those days there was only one author in the world, and his name was Fenimore Cooper. And when the Sunday school library was exhausted, didn't we spend our twopence a week pocket money in fiction—a thirty-two page pamphlet with a yellow cover and a picture of a Red-skin in full war paint astride a horse that was leaping a cañon—a string of feathers from head to heel, a tomahawk in one hand and twenty scalps in the other! Or maybe the picture represented an attack on a caravan of pale-faces, or the torturing of somebody over a slow fire, or perhaps is was an illustration of a handsome young redshirted backwoodsman carrying off the fainting form of the Flower of the Prairie!

Those were days when we could really enjoy literature. We didn't know what psychology meant. We weren't troubled about literary finish and all that rubbish. We loved "Nick of the Woods" and 'The Headless Horseman." We could appreciate a good, healthy, roaring fight.

And didn't we go on the warpath ourselves, following silently a trail through the gooseberry bushes in the back garden, and didn't we have our whoops, and didn't we catch cold sleeping in blankets on the bedroom floor, after turning the quilt into a wigwam? Didn't we always call Indians Injins? The Red-skin was the only character in fiction that was real and life-like and convincing.

We remember seeing the Red Indian at Buffalo Bill's Wild West. In the arena he was magnificent, and we went fourteen times to watch him attack the Deadwood coach. We didn't go any more, however, when we found him making love to the cockney girl who sold pop-corn. That wasn't life-like!

Alas that experience should bring disillusion! The Red Indian as we saw him at Wadsworth and in the camps across the desert, and right as far as Winnemucca, and further, wasn't like a Red Indian at all. He didn't live in a wigwam. He lived in a wooden shed and occasionally kept pigs. He didn't wear a head-dress of gaudy feathers. He didn't don moccasins. He wore a felt hat and blue cotton trousers. No scalps hung at his girdle—only a tobacco pouch. He had no war-paint. The only unnatural tints on his skin were due to the scarcity of water in those parts; or perhaps it was a dislike to water. He didn't go on the war-path. But frequently he stole his neighbour's chickens. He didn't ride a fiery steed. He travelled in a railway car and—here he was different from ordinary humanity—he travelled free because the railway company liked to conciliate him and prevent any accidents by the wanton tearing up of the line.

It is a matter of imprisonment to supply a Red Indian with whisky. But Roaring Bull and Eagle Eye and Death's Head have the accumulated thirst of all their ancestors for fire-water, and frequently they get uproariously drunk. No wonder. They drink American whisky. And American whisky is a viler concoction than ever came out of a Glasgow shebeen on a Sabbath afternoon. Also American cigars are horrible, with a price that increases in proportion to their nastiness. And American tea! The Americans can't make good tea. It's worse than the stuff you get in France.

But the Red-skin doesn't bother about tea. It's Bourbon whisky he likes. And he drinks it neat. He won't work. He lounges round the camps playing cards. The United States Government has endeavoured to educate him. But he won't be educated. He doesn't repine at the degeneracy of the red tribes and the domination of the pale-face.

Physically, he is not to be scoffed at. He is tall and broad-set and big-boned. His complexion is that of weak coffee. He has a firm-set chin, there is fine determination about the mouth, the nose is usually well developed, but the forehead is low and you don't like the look of the eyes. They are treacherous eyes. He loves finery. In the morning he walks about camp in a red blanket. And he always wears a glaring red or green silken scarf about his neck.

Next to the Kachin women we saw on the Burma-Chinese frontier the Indian squaws are the ugliest creatures that ever wore petticoats. They are coarse-featured, their hair is fringed over their eyes, and they have about as much figure as a sack of flour. There wasn't a "Flower of the Prairie" among them. It there was, she had run to seed. The only thing to be seen to remind one of glorious Fenimore Cooper was the little coffin-strapped-board sort of a cradle to which the baby is fastened and then slung behind. It must be very uncomfortable to be a papoose.

Poor Red Man! There are no happy hunting grounds left to him. He is being civilised off the face of the earth. It's all in the sacred cause of progress and religion. The Pilgrim Fathers have much to answer for. We read that when they landed in America they fell upon their knees; then they fell upon the aborigines.

The loungers of Wadsworth, pale-face and red, watched us off. That day was to be our very worst in America. For twelve miles there faced us nothing but soft, shifting sand. The bicycles by their own weight sank six inches in it. A decently heavy cyclist went in nearly a foot at every step.

Add the intense heat, the heavy, throbbing thick air that hung above the scorching sand, the thirst, the discomfort, the slow and wearisome progress, and you confess the Nevada desert is not an ideal place.

We were warned that on reaching the first railway section house we should have a lively greeting. It was inhabited by a hermit who didn't like visitors. He wouldn't give shelter and he would give you a bullet if you didn't make off. We didn't want his shelter, but we were determined on having water even if there was to be an exchange of shots before getting it.

But instead of a cantankerous old hermit sitting on the doorstep, six-shooter in hand, there was a benevolent negro in sugar cone white hat and gold-rimmed glasses. He was a loquacious, smooth-tongued nigger, with a smile. He wore the badge of the Christian Endeavour Society, a button with 16 to 1 on it, to display his views on the silver question, and a small representation of a skull and cross-bones, as a gentle reminder of what we shall all come to.

"Where's the old hermit?" we asked.

"Oh, he gone, sah; he too mad stop here; cause too much trouble! Don't know where he gone, but he gone!"

"So you're in charge? Pretty lonely out here, isn't it?"

"Yus, sah, it is. Been here ten months now; guess I'll be staying here till next fall. It's lonesome, yus, sah, it *is* lonesome. Never see no one. Just walk up and down the line an' then sit here lonely. Very sad, very sad, sah! Old man now, sah; not always like this. I fond of town, like to have talk, have glass beer [And a Christian Endeavour man, too!] be friendly with folk. But here, sah, it's lonesome. There's nothin' but desert. It's lonesome; oh, it is lonesome!"

The old fellow willingly permitted us to fill our water bottles from his tank. So we went rejoicing over the hot land, with never a tree to shade, and nothing in view but a grey veil of heat quivering and dancing in the distance. Where the country was charged with alkali the ground was often hard, and then we had good riding. Generally, however, we had to bump our way over the sleepers on the railway. It was hot work and there was nothing to interest.

One stretch of country was covered with masses of ashes and burnt red rock, as though a volcano had been at work. Then came billows of sand with massive, singularly-shaped pieces of sandstone, like petrified sea fauna. There was a great inland sea here once. All round the hills was plainly discernible the water line. The valley was like a sheet of white paper. This was White Plains.

How we hated those great white patches, charged with alkali, that made us feel we were in a lime kiln, hurting our eyes and scorching our throats!

Then pushing over a knoll we saw the silent breast of the Humboldt Lake, flushed crimson with the sinking sun. And we reached a telegraph signalman's hut, and there we got ham and eggs and coffee, and rough and tumble sleeping accommodation. But oh! how delicious it was after being frizzled all day under the sun, to go out in the starlight and sit on an old box and smoke and enjoy the cool! At night on the desert there is immensity and peace.

Nothing but that awful land, bare desert, and sand, and sage-bush, and the hot railway metals stretching a glittering trail into the unknown! Yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow, it is the same! It was patience and plodding and hard work through the hot hours of the day. Nights were passed in towns of three or four houses built where drinking water was obtainable; Mill City, that is just a few boards bleaching on the prairie, and Golconda, a noisy mining camp, full of swaggering, blaspheming rascals. All the journey between Mill City and Golconda was between the metals, a tiring day. It was bobbing, hopping, and bumping over the sleepers all the time. The heat on the morning we rode from Golconda to Battle Mountain, forty-two miles, was terrific. It was like India. The sand seemed to absorb the sun's rays like a red hot iron, and then pour them out upon you in double strength. There was one long stretch of riding over alkali. The reflection from the white plain hurt our faces as though we were lashed with thin whip-cord. Our eyes ached. We could get nothing to eat. Our water bottles were emptied early, and for two hours we had the experience of absolutely dry mouths—when you can bite your tongue and feel no sensation—and throats that were caked with lime. It cost a dollar a head to get rid of that thirst at Battle Mountain.

In the towns—at a handful of houses called Lovelocks, and at Golconda—we met cowboys, the genuine articles, tall, slouching, fair-eyed, brown-skinned fellows, true sons of the prairie, strangers to starch and drawing room manners, swearing even worse than the boys in the stories of Morley Roberts, their felt hats soft and broad-flapped, no coats, no vests, but shirts open at the neck, their trousers held

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up by brown belts, and their legs stuck into top boots, dusty and rusty and disreputable. The horses they rode were shaggy-coated; the saddles were Mexican, brass-studded and high-pummelled, the stirrups were like big leather slippers with no heels. Always by the saddle hung a rope for lassooing.

They were pure Anglo-Saxon, were these cowboys, but Anglo-Saxons who had never known city life. There was a breezy, frank, boyish, who-the-dash-are-you air about them, only found in men that live under clear skies. The look in their eyes was peculiar to men who gaze over long distances. They were fearless and honest. But the way they swore! The language with which a 'bus driver in the Strand talks to another 'bus driver who obstructs the road is the innocent prattle of childhood compared with even a companionable greeting between two cowboys.

It was good to get one's back up against the wall of a drinking saloon and talk to these men. Eliminating all oaths, one six-foot-two cowboy said: "Say, what you think of us? Guess you think cowboys the wildest blackguards on earth! People back-east, Chicago-ways, think we're savages. They do If I went to Chicago and wore my hat like this"—he knocked the conventional dent in soft-felts out of the crown—"people would follow me about in the streets and say: 'Look at that wild man from the west!' Nobody knows anything about cowboy life except from novels, and they would make a mule laugh. Wild! oh, I daresay we're not just as smooth-tongued as men in cities. But the life—it is real life! No cares nor worries, but a real living, rollicking life. The boss of the ranch will say, 'Boys, I want 600 head of steers brought in first thing in the morning.' Off we go racing to catch the beasts, and then the chases and the driving of them along—that's excitement! Let those who like big cities stop there, but they don't know what living is."

Then a short set, wrinkle-faced, tawny-moustached miner would join in: "Guess the miner's life is the best, anyway. Sometimes you're flush; sometimes you haven't a red cent. Back in those hills me and my partner have struck a vein of gold worth a quarter of a million—truth! And there's good fun at times with the six-shooters. Why, Jake, you remember that affair in Old Crazy's saloon—eh?—twelve guns out at once! See that chap sitting over there, him with the cut over the eye? He's done for four men in his day, and the last man he killed cost him sixteen hundred dollars. You ride on your bucking brutes after steers. Give me a pick and axe and go'd to dig."

Strange fellows were these Nevadians. They live in the ranches and the mining camps at the back of the dried hills that hedge the desert. In the cañons they rear cattle, and from the rocks they draw gold.

We didn't see them at home. We only saw them rioting in the drinking saloons that are near every railway depôt on the prairie. And lonely and outcast as their lives seemed, not one of them wanted to go back to civilisation.

EIGHTY-SECOND ARTICLE.

MORE OF THE NEVADA DESERT.

SOME AMERICAN SIDE-LIGHTS.

Terrace, State of Utah.

What a dreary waste! In the great basin between the Sierra Nevada range and the Rocky Mountains, nothing but a thousand miles of salt and sand, a tract of the world, parched, and blistered, and dreary, wholly accursed!

Day after day we wheeled on. It was hard and hot riding. And at night when one sat, diary in hand, trying to recall incidents, there only floated before the mind visions of sun-baked wilderness, endless, countless miles of withered sage-brush, great flats reeking with alkali fumes, gaunt, ochred hills that stared desolate over the prairie—the same every day with no variety. It was a forbidding world and bare.

Only in the evenings—when the breeze was soft and delicious, and we pulled up at a little group of shanties, called a town, and strolled into the store and sat on a cracker box dangling legs, grunting meanwhiles at the hopelessness of the land—would one hear a good word for Nevada.

"Hopeless, sir!" the Nevadian would chime in, "why Nevada is one of the finest States in the Union. You've come across the worst part on those bicycles of yours, the desert, but go over those hills in the valleys and beyond. There you'll see grazing land, the finest in the world, and there are gold mines and silver mines and copper mines, and the Lord knows what in the cañons. Look at this quartz—see the nuggets of gold? That's worth four hundred dollars to the ton. I've seen nuggets as big as your fist—yes, as big as your head. And we raise sheep, millions of 'em. Don't get the idea into your head Nevada is all desert. It ain't! It's the richest of the States for its size, and no other compares with it."

Then a long-limbed Californian would squirt a blotch of tobacco juice between his teeth upon the floor, twist his chewing quid into his cheek, and let loose a run of blasphemous epigrammatic scorn. There was only one place on earth, according to this long Westerner, that wasn't desert, and that's California. And California's paradise!

Then a Colorado man, with arms stuck up to the elbows in his breeches pockets—he wore no coat nor vest, and his shirt was grey—aimed his spittle at the stove and missed it, and sneered contempt. He told a wonderful yarn about the richness of Denver.

You soon see that no American will admit the superiority of any State over his State. The only point on which Americans agree is that the continent belonging to Uncle Sam is the finest in the world; its people are the finest, its manufactories, agriculture, resources, are the finest; and that there is nothing in the world that cannot be outdone by America. Its dollars could buy all the rest up, and there still be enough left to put a mortgage on the moon. The average American has no weariness in talking about his country. He is mentally enwrapped in Stars and Stripes. Never for a moment does he let you forget he is a citizen of the United States—"and I'm proud of it—the grandest country in the world, sir."

Breathes there a Yank, so mean, so small,
Who never says, "Well, now by Gaul,
I reckon since old Adam's fall,
There never breathed on this 'ere ball
A nation so almighty tall
As we gor-darnin' Yankees."

Nevada has a peculiarity of its own. While the population of other States has jumped up phenomenally, and great cities been born between the rising and the setting of the sun, the population of Nevada, with its seventy-one millions of acres, is dwindling away. There are not more than 60,000 people in the entire State, and that is about a third less than there were twenty-five years ago. Within the memory of old men Nevada has been as unknown to the white man as Central Africa is to-day. Just when the Queen came to the throne silver was discovered in its hills. Then came the mighty rush, the mining camps, the hell's on earth, the great romance.

On our way we saw rude graves, chunks of sandstone pillars on the desert, with names now almost obliterated. 'Wheeler, 1839"—that was all. Sometimes we got hold of a sturdy old argonaut and invited him to a saloon. And there, with a bottle of rye whisky before him—the westerner drinks his whisky neat, with a gulp of water afterwards, called "a follow"—he would reel off yarns about those early days, conflicts with Indians, sand-storms, starvation, most of all thirst; and the wild, blood-shot-eyed feverish search for silver, the great finds, the camp murders, the gambling—terrible yarns of terrible times.

We got hold of a little book published a year or two ago, compiled under the direction of the State Bureau of Immigration, called, "Nevada and her resources; a brief sketch of the advantages and possibilities of the State, and the opportunities and inducements offered to capitalists and home-seekers." It was an interesting book, evidently written by an auctioneer, and demonstrating clearly that roses grow on sage-brush, and that there is nothing like alkali for the cultivation of wheat. You would imagine you have only to walk into the hills and fill sacks of nuggets.

Were not over half-a-billion of dollars in gold and silver extracted from one fissure in the earth's crust—the Comstock lode? Didn't the Reese River excitement produce thirty-six million dollars? Didn't the Eureka mines produce one hundred and twenty-five million dollars? A wonderful land, truly!

In 1861 the witty James W. Nye became Governor of Nevada, and "Mark Twain" was Assistant Secretary After that Nevada became a sort of sucked orange.

But here is a gem from this auctioneer's pamphlet about Nevada: "The discovery of gold in California, followed by that of silver in Nevada, was the most important provision for human happiness made since the days of Palestine."

When we have time we will look up what was that important provision "in the days of Palestine." The paragraph continues: "The production of such enormous stores of imperishable riches lifted a load from the back of our race, and there was an upward bound in all that is desirable among men." Therefore let none say that the craze to obtain gold fosters malice, envy, hatred, vice, murder, and the rest. In the eyes of the Nevada State Bureau of Immigration the gold miner becomes a saintly, angelic person. We rather like the gold miner. But as far as our experience goes he is not a saint, and we are ready to swear there is little of the angel about him.

But one more quotation: "The early days are full of rich traditions. The bar was one of the best in the Union, brought there by the enormous fees consequent upon disputes about ground known, or supposed to be, boiling over with gold and silver. Society was made up of bright men and women from all parts of the world, and money was held to be entirely a matter of course, as everyone had it in plenty. The social life of the State has always been one of its chiefest charms for good people." How beautiful! How nice a place Nevada must be for "good people."

Alas that we three are not "good people"! Crossing Nevada we met many sterling, straight, sturdy fellows, the best of men. But we met others. We met men—the proportion was about equal—who were offensive, who were always cramming down one's throat they were "free-born Americans, and bowed to no son of a ——." They were always prating of their independence, and they showed their independence by being rude. Our track across the desert was always near the line of the Central Pacific Railroad. And we came in contact with the employés of this company. On them we were often dependent for water and food. But we were refused water, or it was given to us discourteously, and though at times we

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were famished with hunger food was denied us. When we did get it we had to eat it on the desert.

Generally speaking, we found the Nevadian along the railway line unfeeling and inhospitable. He was the true barbarian—it had nothing to do with him if you were parched with thirst, and why should he bother if you were weary with hunger? "Thirst and starve and be blanked" was his attitude. When we did get food the money had to be paid first. Then we would be told, "Stop outside, and I'll see what I can get for you." Never once in all our journey across Nevada was there the slightest sign of hospitality, never once was there the spirit shown which meant, "Here are three fellows who are tired and dusty and thirsty and hungry after their ride on the plains; they might like some bread and cold meat and we can settle about payment afterwards."

Now and then, in the townlets by the way, we would drop remarks about the Nevadian barbarians And, though thirsty and hungry, a British cyclist can, at times, be very fluent. The Nevadians winced. They invariably said: "It's those railway people, and railway people are not Americans." The reasoning was not very clear, but we let it go.

Well, we hastened on, day after day, over those regions of burnt sand till we saw patches of green and ranches on the edge of the hills, and met men trudging from ranch to ranch sheep-shearing. Now and then we caught glimpses of the swirling, muddy Humboldt River, and crawled our way round humped hills.

We rode over the railway track through what is called Palisade Cañon, a wild pass with ragged red rocks rearing on both sides, the peaks towering high like fantastic pinnacles. We were bumping our way over the sleepers when an icy windwave rolled down the Cañon, the sky turned ashen, there was the rumble of thunder, the swift flash of lightning, and a terrific storm burst upon us. The clouds, all shredded at the edges, like a torn cloth, raced before the gale. The hills were grim. The roar of the thunder was like a cannonade. The rain swooped down in sheets, We were drenched. There was no hut or cavern in which to seek shelter. So we hurried. At last there was a gully running under the railway line, and we crawled into the hole. There we sat for an hour. When a halt came in the downpour we went on and reached a railway section house. An old Dutchman was living there alone, a cadaverous, unwashed, swearing old man. He was seventy-two.

(To be continued.)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S BIRMINGHAM SPEECH.

We are now in possession of what Mr. Chamberlain actually did say in his Birmingham speech. Reuter represented him as asserting that Great Britain could not fight Russia in the Far East without an ally. What he really asserted was that "in China we have now to count with Russia, as in Afghanistan, except that we do not possess an army or defensive frontier in China, and therefore cannot injure Russia without an ally." The version that Reuter's agent gave of this contained a grain of truth, but, on the whole, was about as clumsy and misleading a summary as could well be conceived. Reuter apart, however, we dare say that many readers of Mr. Chamberlain's words will find difficulty in apprehending their exact significance. Why has Great Britain to count with Russia in China now any more than she had to count with her six months ago? Port Arthur does not enter into this question. Its possession strengthens Russia's maritime potentialities by giving her a fine naval basis and a dockyard. But Mr. Chamberlain could not have had the sea in his mind when he spoke of our inability to injure Russia. We can always get at her by sea. In one respect, indeed, Port Arthur renders her more accessible and therefore more vulnerable, for it extends the area of her ships' activity and consequently brings them within wider range of our squadron's guns. It was of operations by land that Mr. Chamberlain was thinking when he alluded to an army and a defensive frontier. But he looked a long way ahead. Russia's military efficiency in the Far East will not be sensibly increased until her trans-Asian Railway is carried across Manchuria to the sea at Liaotung. Of course the completion of the railway to Vladivostock would have greatly augmented her strength, but that was a contingency to be reckoned with in any case. What we want to examine now is the change resulting from her acquisition of Liaotung as well as of the privilege of carrying her railway thither, and we venture to affirm that there will be no change in her offensive capacity until the railway is finished, and until she has established a series of depôts forming a serviceable line of communications with her Caspian territories. It appears to be assumed in some quarters that Manchuria would offer to Russia a secure basis of operations against the Middle Kingdom, and even that she could march a great Manchu *corps d'armée* to the reduction of Peking and the overthrow of the Tsing dynasty. Is that a foregone conclusion? Apply the conditions of the problem to a European State, and consider whether it would be reasonable to conclude that if France, for example, gained a foothold in Prussia, she could organise a Westphalian corps for the assault of Berlin? Patriotism is not counted an important factor in calculations that concern China, yet it is difficult to conceive the Manchu Tartars following the Russian flag to fight against a throne defended by their own countrymen and occupied by a sovereign whom their own ancestors placed there. It seems to us that many a long year must pass before Russia could attempt anything of that kind, or even before she could count upon Manchuria as a safe platform from which to aim a blow at Peking. Decades and cycles bulk very small, however, in the history of nations, and there is no blinking the fact that when Russia has railway communication right through from Europe to Liaotung, and when she has fully utilised all the pretexts that the construction of the railway will furnish for fixing her grasp upon Manchuria, she will stand a veritable Colossus in the Far East. It must have been to that time that Mr. Chamberlain was looking forward. And when that time comes will other conditions have undergone no important alterations? Will China be as helpless then as she is now? That, in our opinion, is the crucial question. Great Britain has immense interests in China, and only two ways of safeguarding them present themselves, an indirect way and a direct way. The indirect way is to contrive that China shall organise her land forces so as to be an effective barrier against any foreign assault upon her integrity. There is not the least doubt that her forces could be so organised. It would be necessary that they should be led by foreign officers; but if properly trained, properly equipped, and properly commanded, they could give a good account of themselves as defenders of their frontiers against any enemy. Russia appears to have foreseen that phase of the problem, for she has already manœuvred to put her own people into the posts hitherto occupied by German military experts in China. If, in the face of recent events, Chinese statesmen are so singularly infatuated as to continue their acquiescence in arrangements of that kind, it becomes quite hopeless to think of galvanising them into any vitality of self-defence. Then there is the direct way, namely, that before the time arrives of which we are speaking, England herself may be planted in the Yangtze valley and, perhaps, on the Peiho, and may be in a position to wield a Chinese army as powerful as her Indian forces. There are people who refer with bated breath to the stupendous and impossible task that would confront England in the East if she essayed to assume administrative control of a hundred millions, or a hundred and fifty millions, of Chinese. Yet these same people find no difficulty in crediting Russia with a digestion vigorous enough to assimilate Manchuria at a mouthful. It is no boast to say that if history proves anything it proves the exceptional capacity of the Anglo-Saxon race to grapple with precisely such big administrative enterprises as that which now excites the apprehension of certain pessimists. When have the Chinese diplayed qualities suggesting the impossibility of imposing a foreign yoke upon their necks? It is strange that they should still be invested with any glamour of the *ignotum* in English eyes. England's interests do not counsel an aggressive policy, but unless the Middle Kingdom is to be eaten up by another Power, we appear to be driven to the conclusion that it must be rendered indigestible by one of the above means. There is always Japan's army in the background of course. Japan and England in combination might constitute themselves China's guardians, and very efficient guardians they would be. But the experience of a great many centuries shows exactly whither such guardianship ultimately leads. Already England's protection of her Chinese interests has planted her at Weihaiwei, and neither she nor Japan will be content to champion an inert, unprogressive, and helpless China without securing the reward of their championship. Thus we come back to our starting point that unless China makes a new departure on her own account, she will be relieved of the responsibility by Great Britain—perhaps by Great Britain and Japan in combination, one or other of which contingencies will have occurred long before Russia develops dangerous aggressive potentialities in Manchuria.—*Japan Mail.*

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

The public is doubtless very reluctant to credit the intelligence from Peking that the Russian Representative has officially protested against the borrowing of British money by China for the construction of the Shanhaikuan-Newchwang Railway. Such a protest would amount to an open declaration on Russia's part that she regards the whole of Manchuria as falling within her "sphere of influence," and that she intends to exclude every other Power from acquiring any material interests there. No one doubts, indeed, that such is her view. But whether Great Britain will endorse it is another question. Russia has tried England's patience very severely. M. Muravieff obtained his lease of Talien and succeeded in doing with Port Arthur precisely what he had promised *not* to do. But unless we are greatly mistaken he paid a very high price for the achievement. If England were polled to-morrow, we are convinced that ninety-nine per cent of the population would vote unhesitatingly for war with Russia. The conviction gives us not the smallest satisfaction. It has always been our hope that the two Powers might come to an amicable understanding, and an immense number of Englishmen cherished the same hope until quite recently. They cherish it no longer. Russia has shown that an understanding with her is practically impossible, and she has shown it by

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an object lesson which leaves an exceedingly bitter feeling among British subjects, the world over. If, while England's nerves are tingling from her recent experience, she is to be asked to swallow another pill of the kind now spoken of in Peking, her patience will not endure the strain. Newchwang is an open port. Its opening was one of the concessions obtained by England in the Treaty of Tientsin. Its foreign trade—a flourishing and growing trade—is almost entirely in British hands. Russia has no share whatever in it. Is Russia to veto the employment of British capital for establishing overland communications with such a place? Surely not. Of course it is easy to appreciate and even to sympathise with her feelings in the matter. A Chinese railway from Shanhaikuan to Newchwang would place China on the flank of the Liaotung extension of Russia's trans-Asian road, and might also very seriously affect the prospects of Talien as a commercial port. If Russia had been left a free hand in Manchuria for ten or fifteen years longer, she would have effectually obviated any such contingency. No wonder that she struggles to prevent it now. But England cannot submit to be dictated to any longer.—*Japan Mail.*

PREJUDICE OVERCOME.

A GOOD CHARACTER FOR THE TURRET SHIP.

Are the turret steamers a success? It is possible by now to give an answer to this much-discussed question.

When the ships were first seen in the water, sailors observed their curious shape, and their daring departures from the ordinary lines of building, and said that it might be all right, but for their part they preferred to make no experiments.

The *Clan Robertson*, latest of the new ships, was recently unloading her Indian cargo at Tilbury Docks. Standing high out of the water, she demanded attention by the peculiarity of her shape. An ordinary vessel in the water looks like—like a ship. The *Clan Robertson*, seen bow on, resembles the upper part of a wine flagon, with the short, thick neck, and a little of the bulging body. This is because the sides of the ship fall in, several feet above water, making a flat harbour deck, and then rise perpendicularly again to the turret deck, which is 15ft. above water when the ship is loaded.

The object of the turret deck is to increase the carrying capacity of the ship. The net register of the *Clan Robertson* is 3,103 tons. She carries 8,500 tons of cargo. In an ordinary vessel the carrying capacity is usually double the registered tonnage. Instead of 6,206 tons, the *Clan Robertson* carries 8,500.

About 1,000 tons of this goes into the turret deck, which is not included in the registered tonnage of the ship. Then the harbour decks are available for cargo, although not of the perishable kind. These decks are like long platforms, skirting the sides of the ship. Timber can be carried there, or coal, or, when the ship is not too deeply laden, horses.

The *Clan Robertson* belongs to Messrs. Cayzer, Irvine & Co. Sir Charles Cayzer, the head of the firm, and member for Barrow-in-Furness, has the reputation of being one of the most enterprising and far-sighted of shipowners. He has stood by the turret-ship, in spite of the howls of prejudice with which he was greeted, and experience has justified his decision. The *Clan Robertson* was built at Sunderland. She trades to Calcutta with general cargo—tea, grain, linseed, jute, and the like.

She is officered entirely by Naval Reserve men. Her Captain is Lieutenant Wilfrid Dulcken, R.N.R., and her chief officer Lieutenant Berne, R.N.R. Captain Dulcken speaks highly of the new type of craft. He may have had his doubts originally, for sailors are a conservative race. But the *Clan Robertson* and her sister *Clans* more than justified themselves.

Captain Dulcken gives the *Clan Robertson* an excellent character. She keeps up twelve knots, she never rolls. She is a splendid sea vessel, and she never has water on deck. At the worst the water rolls on the harbour decks, and rolls off again. The turret deck allows the hatches and ventilators to be open in all weathers, which is good for the cargo.

The *Clan Robertson* has all the latest improvements, even to her own searchlight for the Suez Canal. The captain and her officers are proud of their ship. It is as smart as a new pin.—*Daily Mail.*

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 27th June.

Before H. E. FULFORD, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

R. *v.* HARVEY AND OTHERS.

Alfred Harvey, of no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and incapable on the Sicawei Road on Sunday afternoon. P.C. Eek deposed to being called to the Sicawei Road where he found the prisoner lying in the road. He was very drunk and quite unable to stand. Prisoner who had nothing to say and only came out of prison recently after serving a sentence for fraud, was fined $5.

James Blake, out of employment, whose face was horribly cut and bruised was brought up on a similar charge. P.C. Thompson said that at midday on Sunday he was called to a godown in Broadway and on going there found the prisoner lying drunk on a bamboo settee with his face badly cut. He was incapable but with assistance witness got him to the Police Station, but not however without some little trouble; prisoner turning violent and damaging witness's uniform. He pleaded guilty and was fined $5.

Frederick Pearce, a young man of respectable appearance, was charged with drunkenness whilst in a licensed jinricsha in North Honan Road on Saturday. The prisoner was drunk and refused to pay the coolie. A constable who came up tried to find out where he wanted to go but he was not in a condition to inform him. Prisoner was fined $5.

Olaf Malnberg, seaman of the *Buckingham*, admitted being found drunk and incapable in Broadway on Sunday afternoon. P.C. Cumming proved the case and prisoner who expressed his sorrow for what had happened was discharged with a caution.

Herman Cedercall, seaman of the *Nellie Troop*, was charged by a Sikh constable with drunkenness and assaulting a 'ricsha coolie in Broadway on Sunday. The offence was admitted but prisoner alleged that the coolie tried to get more money out of him than was due. His Worship sentenced him to a week's imprisonment, to be put aboard his ship if she sailed earlier.

John Thompson, a puny-looking individual belonging to the *Penthesilea*, was placed in the dock charged with drunkenness and creating a disturbance in Broadway on Sunday. According to the evidence of a Sikh constable it appeared that prisoner hired a 'ricsha, and when asked for his fare assaulted the unfortunate coolie. He was arrested and taken to the station and with all the impudence in the world showed fight to the officer. He was ordered to undergo a week's imprisonment without the option of a fine.

Robert W. Bradbury, a sailor of the ship *Creedmore*, was charged by P. C. Cumming with a like offence in Broadway on Sunday evening. The prisoner in company with others ordered drinks in the Cleveland tavern and refused to pay for them. He also broke a glass. The attention of the officer was called three times earlier in the day to the prisoner's behaviour and he was cautioned. He now pleaded guilty and was fined $5.

George Stoneman, an elderly man, was brought up on a charge of drunkenness and indecency in Broadway on Sunday evening about seven o'clock. A Sikh constable gave evidence and the conduct of the prisoner was shown to be of the most disgusting character. He was very drunk. Prisoner who is the chief officer of the sailing ship *Penthesilea* was ordered to pay a penalty of $10.

Thomas Ward, sailor of the *Creedmore*, was charged with being guilty while drunk of disorderly behaviour on Broadway. Prisoner who was very drunk had been creating a disturbance in the Hwakee Road joss-house. He went out in the street and continued his disorderly conduct. P. C. Thompson stated the facts of the case and prisoner who denied the charge said somebody had stolen his hat and he went into the Joss-house to try and find it. He was discharged with a caution.

John Burns, sailor of the *Penthesilea*, charged with drunkenness in Hanbury Road on Sunday night, pleaded guilty and was discharged with a caution.

28th June.

R. *v.* BOYLES.

James Boyles, 28, donkeyman of the s.s. *Adana*, was charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct in Broadway on the previous night, and further with assaulting a constable in the execution of his duty at the same time and place. The evidence of a Sikh constable went to show that a number of men were ejected from one of the grogshops in Hongkew for creating a disturbance within. The prisoner was one of the number and the officer ordered them to go away. All took his advice but the prisoner. He was very much under the influence of drink and becoming very violent assaulted the officer. A European constable came to his assistance and with difficulty the prisoner was conveyed to the lock-up.

P.C. Powell gave corroborative testimony and stated that the prisoner also assaulted him by kicking him in the stomach.

Prisoner now denied the charge and asked that he might be allowed to instruct an advocate to defend him. He was in a position to call witnesses to prove that he was not drunk.

His Worship, in imposing a fine of $5 with the option of a week's imprisonment, said the case was clearly proved.

On being asked by the gaoler, Constable Brun, if he was going to pay the money, prisoner scornfully replied: "Do you think we come ashore without money?"

30th June.

R. *v.* QUAIL AND FOGARTY.

Henry Quail, seaman of the *Largo Bay*, was charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct in Broadway and assaulting two constables in the execution of their duty. Nicholas Fogarty, also a sailor of the above named vessel, was charged with attempting to rescue Quail from custody and with assaulting the officers.

Sikh constable 59 deposed to seeing a crowd of sailors obstructing the roadway in Broadway and he went up to disperse them. The prisoner Quail was very drunk and creating a great disturbance. He had to take him into custody whereupon he turned very rough and struggled hard to release himself. The constable stuck to him and was badly assaulted. The prisoner

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Fogarty tried to get him away resisting the Sikh in every way he could. Assistance, however, was forthcoming and a European constable who came to his aid was knocked down by Quail.

P.C. Rose spoke to assisting the last witness. He said the prisoners in company with others not in custody were causing a great disturbance and when asked to desist they started hustling the Sikh. Quail then rushed at witness and knocked him down, the force of which coupled with his inebriated condition caused him also to fall. Witness held him down and whilst so doing was struck and kicked. He blew his whistle and two foreign constables came up with the result that after some difficulty prisoners were taken to the station. Fogarty was sober.

Quail declared that they only came into port the previous day and he went ashore and got drunk. He was not so drunk as some of his companions and was endeavouring to get them aboard their ship when the officers interfered.

Fogarty denied the assault and the resistance.

Inspector Bourke said Broadway owing to the conduct of these men was like a pandemonium. They were more like a couple of madmen than anything else.

His Worship sentenced each of them to a fortnight's imprisonment with hard labour.

2nd July.

R. *v.* Malready.

Charles Malready, 28, out of employment, was brought up charged with drunkenness and assaulting a native Constable in Nanking Road at an early hour on Saturday morning.

Evidence having been given in support of the charge, prisoner made no defence and was sentenced to a week's imprisonment.

NOT KNOWING WHAT ELSE TO DO.

To save ourselves trouble and suffering by learning from the experience of others—that is the wisdom of history. Otherwise every generation, and every man and woman therein, would have to begin back where their ancestors did. Every soul of us has to learn the alphabet for himself; but *after that* he can read and benefit by what others have written. Is that idea plain as peas in a split pod? Yes. Well, then, let us see whether it has anything to say to the facts set forth in the following letter:—

"After my confinement," writes a woman, "in August of last year (1893), I could not get up my strength. My food did not seem to be of any use to me. In some way I was ill, but I could not give a name to the ailment. My tongue was swollen and thickly coated and I was constantly spitting out the thick phlegm which gathered in my throat and mouth. No matter how little food I took—even a morsel—it gave me great pain at the chest and sides; and sometimes it would dart through to my back between the shoulders.

"Often I would be sick, and heave and strain until I was quite sore. Then, again, a pain would take me in the stomach and cut through me like a knife. I had a dry hacking cough which never left me, and I sweat terribly at night. The cough was so bad that I often had to hold my sides when I had spells of it.

"Nearly every bit of flesh went off my bones, and I got so weak I couldn't put my foot to the ground. People said I was in a consumption, and I had little hope of getting better. I was so nervous that the least noise would startle and upset me. Those who called said it was pitiable to see the condition I was in.

"I had two doctors who gave me medicines, but I only got worse and worse. At the end of October (1893) I came by a small book telling about Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and, *not knowing what else to do*, I sent to Mr. Baxter, the druggist, Brookhouse, and got a bottle. After I had taken it but a few days I was better. I could eat something and it stayed on my stomach, and the pain was less severe. As I took dose after dose of the Syrup the improvement went on, all the bad feelings abated and I gained strength. It wasn't long before the cough was quite gone, and I was well and strong as ever.

"After my recovery, a neighbour said to me, '*Mrs. Redhead, you have made my heart sad many a time when I saw you so bad.*'

"'Thank you,' I replied, 'and I was sad enough myself, but Mother Seigel's Syrup has made me glad again, for it has given me back my good health.'

"And in thankfulness for it I am very willing you should publish what I have told you. (Signed) Mrs. Mary Jane Redhead, 73, Peter Street. Blackburn. April 4th, 1894."

We congratulate Mrs. Redhead, and tender our regards to the kind-hearted neighbour who was so sorry for her. But what a pity that Mrs. R. didn't know in August what she learned in October—namely, that her disease was indigestion and dyspepsia, and that Mother Seigel's Syrup is a cure for it; some folk say the *only* cure. Well, we suppose she had to wait her turn to find that out. There's a deal of mystery about these things.

Anyway, she knows *now*, and the printing of her story will enable lots of other sufferers to begin where she left off. They won't take the Syrup as she did, *not knowing what else to do*, but they will take it the very day they fall ill, knowing that to be exactly the right thing to do.

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Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTH.

At 26, The Bund, Shanghai, on the 2nd of July, 1898, the wife of C. S. Addis, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 28th of June, 1898, Carl Frederick, eldest son of F. Bischof, Inland Sea Pilot, Japan, aged 16 years.

Suddenly on the 1st of July, Mr. Wilhelm Boese, aged 27 years.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.

Per str. *Empress of India*, for London—Rev. and Mrs. M. B. Grier and child, Rev. and Mrs. J. Parker and child, Mrs. Greaves, Mrs. J. L. Scott, Miss K. Morgan, Messrs. W. H. Shockley. W. Theodor, Chevalier Luzzatti, R. R. Hynd, Ginnell, Wade Gard'ner, R. C. Renny, C. A. Moreing, C. E. D. Black, F. S. Unwin, F. S. Dugdale, and F. D. Acland. For New York—Miss A. M. Stanton. For St. Paul—Mr. W. Frank Hall. For Minneapolis—Misses Shih Gan-he, and Tan I-lien. For Sheldon, Iowa—Miss Sia. For Portland, Or. Rev. B. H. Franklin. For Milwaukee—Miss S. M. Bosworth. For Chicago—Rev. and Mrs. Viking and child. For Vancouver — Miss L. M. Stanley, Messrs J. Stern, J. Gibson. For Amsterdam — Mr. W. J. Ondendijk. For Yokohama—Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Heywood and child, Mr. and Mrs. Wehrung, Mesdames Dudgeon, Malon, Taylor, Cartwright, W. Bruce Robertson, E. Wickham and infant, Probst and child, Groundwater, and Twenty-man and infant, Misses Dudgeon, Parsons, Wehrung, Taylor, G. Morgan, Elliss, and Cameron, Messrs. Groundwater. J. Behrend, A. J. Rowand, Ede Bavier, W. Cartwright, and Coney and 2 children, Dr. E. H. Horsey, and 1 marine from H.M.S. *Algerine*. For Kobe—Messrs. F. A. Lander, U. Ammann, C. Churchill, and J. David. For Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Wright and 2 children, Messrs. Naftaly, Gilbert Davies, and P. Hannesen.

Per str. *Sydney*, for Marseilles—Messrs. Desthieux, Bondon, Simons, Guillaume, and Fourniere. For Port Said—Messrs. W. Tedorowskey, and A Pankin. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hertz, Messrs. W. Ehyn, and Geach. For Saigon—Messrs. Lacroix, Fraisse, and Dr. Phillippo Zahiva. For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Santos, Mrs. M. Gutterez, Misses Wells, and B. Silva Netto, Messrs. Guedes, S. Sutcliffe, C. A. Havier, and W. J. Barry. For Colombo—Mr. William.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. McLeish and 2 children, Mrs. Lead and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Larkins and 2 children, Lieut. M. Tojo, Messrs. M. S. Oveyrin, W. Koreylin, Buschoneiker, W. Sakadi, Way Chu-dong, Wong Way-nh, and Korsylin's nurse and child. For Fusan—Master and Miss Johansen. For Kobe...Mrs. Shannou and child, Rev. and Mrs. Bourke and 3 children, H. Good, Mr. and Mrs. Bently, Mrs. Dr. E. White, Mrs. Good, Col. K. Yamhara, Messrs. H. Good, Fujita, Owatari, H. Mori, Aagiwara, Jissoji, Oh Nisu and 2 children. For Yokohama—Messrs. E. Carison, A. Esk, Nishisawa, L. Petit, Collin, A. Wiart, H. Feer, Kuribayashi, and Tsu Wei-chun.

Per str. *Haean*, for Tientsin—Mrs. C. G. Carozzi, Rev. W. B. Stelk, and Messrs. E. G. Hillier, Pritchard Morgan, M. P., and Field.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, for Hankow—Mr. F. Funatsa.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Messrs. A. R. Greaves, and Blanchet.

Per str. *Tungchow*, for Chefoo—Mr. E. T. and Masters (2) Williams.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Miss M. W. Jewell.

Per str. *Ngankin*, for Hankow—Mr. Hubert.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. W. Young.

Per str. *Ngankin*, for Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. Poate, Mrs. P. Kranz and 2 infants, and Master Cooper.

Per str. *Foochow*, for Newchwang—Revs. F. Huchet and Moulin.

Per str. *Haeshin*, for Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Parr and 2 children.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, for Chinkiang — Mrs. Grape. For Wuhu—Mr. E. Gilchrist. For Hankow—Mr. Franque, and Dr. Goldmann.

Per str. *Esang*, for Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Hearn and baby.

Per str. *Kingsing*, for Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan Read and family. For Chefoo — Misses McNight, and Fleming, Captain Incoronato, Lieut. Guida, Messrs. E. J. Sales, and E. J. Blake.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Kiukiang—Mrs. Cooper.

Per str. *Tungchow*, for Chefoo - Mrs. Buyers and 3 children.

Per str. *Tungchow*, for Tientsin—Hon. and Mrs. Conger, Misses Conger, Pierce and Bryan, Messrs. Branbridge, and F. R. Cave. For Chefoo—Mr. W. M. Dowdall.

Per str. *Ngankin*, for Kiukiang—Mrs. J. Ford and 3 servants.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. P. Blesky.

Per str. *Woosung* for Newchwang—Mr. A. G. Palmer.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, for Wuhu — Bishop Garnier. For Hankow — Mr. Wade. For Kinkiang—Mrs. Colonius.

Per str. *Haean*, for Tientsin—Mr. Bessell.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Messrs. A. Middleton, and Diamont.

Per str. *Haeshin*, for Foochow—Mr. A. K. Rhoden.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Mr. C. Conscience. For Wuhu—Mr. W. C. Michell. For Kiukiang—Mrs. Cooper.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Miss Delaparie.

Arrived.

Per str. *Ballaarat*, from London—Messrs. Conscience, Schregardes, F. R. Care, E. Baker, and Mrs. Platt's amah. From Brindisi—Messrs. Edmenton, F. Malorne, W. F. Hey, K. Frosell, F. Way Kong, and J. Wolton. From Hongkong — Messrs. Kahn, Munch, Jordan, G. Koite, Kay, and Sheridan and servant.

Per str. *Bayern*, from Bremen—Mrs. W. Trendel and child, Messrs. Schriewer, Mahle, Hakowsky, Pocoray, Bergemann, Zaarsky, Triedrichs, Vachbar, H. Gipperich, Theodor Carl, W. Tedenel, and G. Trendel. From Antwerp—Messrs. Otto Ritthansen, and C. A. Wegelin. From Genoa—Messrs. Carl Rohde, Emil Schulze, Martin Krieg, Friedr. Kohl, Otto Zittelmann, and J. Beermann. From Naples—Messrs Peter Thurner, Behrends, Schilasky, and J. Handelmann. From Aden—Mr. Fingerhert. From Singapore — Mrs. Kayusha, and infant. From Hongkong—Mrs. West, Capt. Lieut. Litymann, Lieuts. Graf, Soden, and von Rosenstiel, Messrs. Franz Oster, and H. Horstmann.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, from Japan, etc.—Mrs. Colonius, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yoshijima, Mrs.

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K. Kobayashi, Captain Y. Ohta, Messrs. G. Derby, A. Shewan, R. Wishimura, M. Rokura, S. Okamoto. T. Banda, R. Abrahamson, Wm. Richardson, Zoo Roi-kie, Tsu Shin-gen, and Shu Tsui-oo.

Per str. *Caledonien*, from Yokohama—Mrs. Cooper, Messrs. H. C. Field, W. Wallace, W. Huchlesly, and Hong Wan-lang. From Kobe—Messrs. Melarchoden, Woo Choo-wan, Hermann Kurz, and Revs. Cortaza, and Fernandez. From Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Abraham and infant, Messrs. J. Moses, Sanders, Rondon, and Hophtosky.

Per str. *Empress of India*, from Hongkong—Mrs. Harding and 2 children, Miss M. Russell, Messrs. Sethna, Laurecis, S. Bethran, R. J. L. White, J. S. Morrison, and Schlee.

Per str. *Choysang*, from Hongkong and Swatow—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Iliff.

Per str. *Glengyle*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Carter, and Stelle.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow—Mrs. Harris.

Per str. *Ngankin*, from Hankow — Mrs. King, Messrs. Pechatnoff, Campbell, Oneyrin, Perrott, Arbuthnot, Lloyd, and Buchanan.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Amoy and Swatow—Mr. Wm. Young.

Per str. *Kingsing*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Parker and child, Miss Taylor, Messrs. J. Prentice, H. Rogers, E. G. Hillier, J. H. Peacock, and Ehrauss.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Nanking—Misses French, and Stanley, and Mr. B. Weill.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Mr. E. G Carlsen.

Per str. *Tehhsing*, from Hankow — Mr. Greaves.

Per str. *Tenringawa Maru*, from Hankow—Miss Gatrell, Rev. James Ware, and Mr. Tojo.

Per str. *Tungchow*, from Tangku and Chefoo—Misses (2) Morgan, Chev. A. Luzzatti, Messrs. H. Shockly, M. Blanchat, Jamee Ginnel, H. G. Rowland, Tangee, Lasuhara, Wright, A. Grover, and Pritchard Morgan.

Per str. *Haeshin*, from Foochow—Mrs. Wilkinson, Messrs. Edgar, Bennett, Woodgate, Sutherland, and Sasaker.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. P. Sys.

Per str. *Kutwo*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Lovatt, Miss Stanton, Messrs. H. Adams, C. A. Pullan, Vander Stegen, Behrend, O. Sullivan, Dagdale, and Carneiro.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Rev. and Mrs. Heywood and child.

Per str. *Poyang*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Stern, Rev. Miquert, Messrs. Theodor, Feer, Wiart, Petit, Collier, Neyama, and E. V. D. Parr.

Per str. *Meifoo*, from Amoy—Mr. Boch.

Per str. *Kiungyü*, from Hankow — Mrs. May, Messrs. W. F. Wilson, and H. Fout.

Per str. *Chefoo*, from Swatow—Mr. Grove.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Tangku—Mrs. Deas and infant, Dr. Horsey, and Mr. Hillier.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Hankow—Miss Mesney, and Mr. Gibson.

Per str. *Suiwo*, from Hankow — Messrs. Crosthwaite and Danloff.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. W. Young.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.	Attached Thermo.	Wind. Direction	Force.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M. Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Min.	Initials.
Jun									
28	29.74	83.5	S.	4	83.5	76.0	83.0	76.0	B.C.
29	29.73	84.5	S	3	85.0	79.0	90.0	75.0	B.
30	29.85	80.0	S.E.	3	80.0	76.0	90.0	76.0	C.
July									
1	29.80	84.0	S.	2	84.0	78.0	84.5	76.5	B C
2	29.80	84.5	S.	3	84.5	78.0	88.0	75.0	B.C
3	29.75	88.0	S.W.	2	88.0	80.5	93.5	81.0	C.
4	29.81	86.5	W.	1	86.5	82.0	95.0	86.0	O.

EXPLANATION

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

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AND

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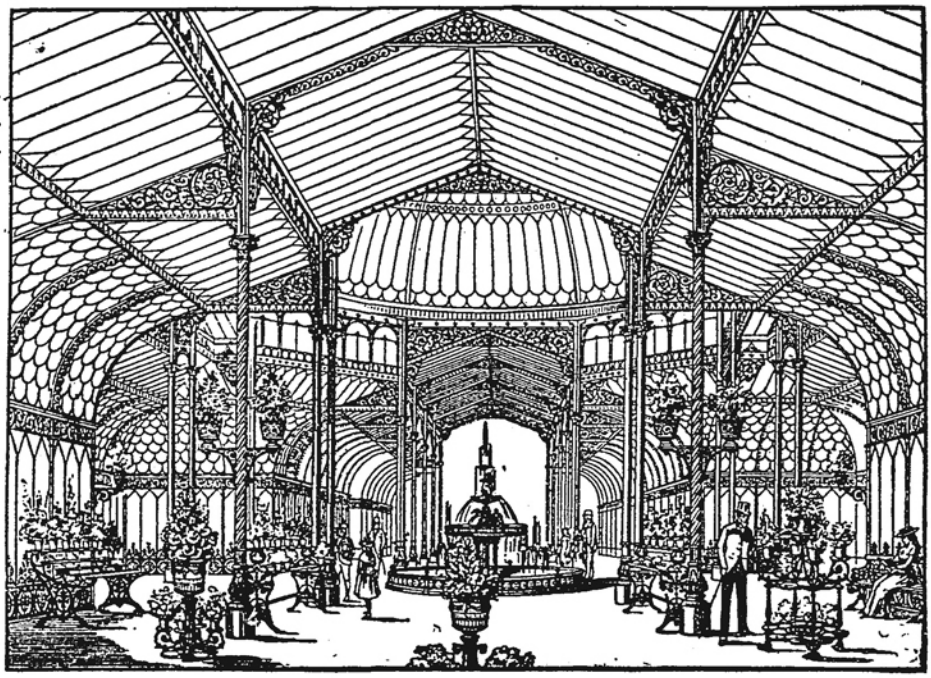

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	£13,558,989	8	9
Revenue Fire Branch	£ 1,551,377	3	9
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n 23jy *n* 16ju *Agent.*
22se-98 741 c.a. S'hai, 24th June, 1898.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report of 2nd July.)

PIECE GOODS.—The market has continued in the same quiet state as described in our last, in fact the quietness has been rather accentuated by the advance in sterling rates in the earlier part of the interval, but they look very unstaple owing to the constant fluctuations of Silver. This the natives are unable to grasp and a slight upward movement is quite sufficient to choke them off buying, except at a reduction in prices out of all proportion with the advance in Exchange. The celestial has always a very strong inclination to be on the safe side! There have been lots of enquiries, in the off chance of picking up bargains, but they have not been very successful, as holders, having only moderate stocks, are not anxious sellers in view of the difficulty there is in replacing sales. Some business is said to have gone through in goods "to arrive," but all particulars are withheld, although in quantity it could doubtless easily exceed the stock sales. The Natives do not anticipate any renewal of the usual current flow of business for another week or ten days, when they seem quite confident a good demand must set in. The most hopeful sign of this is the continuance of a steady business in TIENTSIN, where goods are moving more freely, and to all appearances satisfactorily. From NEWCHWANG, too, the news at the close is a little more cheering and some buying for that market is expected to take place during the next week. CHEFOO is in the market again, but her requirements are usually very moderate. There is no special news from our other dependencies this week, beyond the fact that the scare with regard to a scarity of rice is gradually subsiding.

At the Auctions, which took place when exchange was on the rise, prices have naturally gone down in a good many instances, but considering the small amount that is going on privately, the prices realised cannot be called altogether unsatisfactory.

The MANCHESTER market continues quiet, with slight reductions obtainable here and there. Cotton, which recovered a thirty second in the middle of the week has receded again to the last quotation we gave, 13 13/32d. Very few advices have been received from the STATES, but the market there appears to be firm, judging by the few quotations to hand.

The Chamber of Commerce have sent out the usual forms for the half yearly returns of Stock, which we trust will be carefully attended to by all holders of cargo, as there are a few discrepancies in the present figures which can only be rectified by starting on a fresh basis. As supplies on hand are certainly lighter than they have been for a long time, there should not be so much trouble with them on this occasion.

We publish below a review of the Customs Reports, which we trust will be of come interest to our readers.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—These continue in very poor request privately, only three small sales being reported, namely:—*Three Friends* $2.22½, *Goat's Head* $2.23 and *Blue 2 Boys* $2.27½, while at Auction prices have run very irregularly, but generally speaking steady to firm for the better makes.

Light Weights.—Privately the sale is reported of 2,500 pieces 6-lbs. *Stag* chop at $0.91. At Auction prices are decidedly easier for 7-lbs., but fairly steady for the lighter weight.

Heavy Weights.—A small business is passing, sales reported being about 11,000 pieces, as follows:—10-lbs. *Two Boys BBB* $2.67½, *Blue Dragon and 7 Child* $2.80, *do. and 5 Old Man* $3.09, *Blue Pagoda and Joss* and *Eagle C* $3.10 and 11-lbs. *Red Lion* $2.92½. With very few exceptions Auction prices are five candareens lower for the better makes, the commoner cloths not showing so much weakness.

12-lbs., 36-inch—There is a moderate enquiry at the moment and business this week privately appears to be confined to 3,000 pieces each of *Ladder and Gun* and *Sphinx* chops at $2 93 and $2.90 respectively, the latter "to arrive." As with the better makes of 10-lbs. these declined about five candareens at Auction.

White Shirtings.—One or two retail lots are reported of which we can quote *Gold Rose* at $2.87½ and *Swallow* at $3.35. The demand seems to have quite gone off the fine makes at the moment and former purchases are not going away. The best makes are weaker at Auction, 72-reeds about steady and 64-reeds two to three candareens lower.

T-Cloths so far as we can learn have been quite neglected privately, and the tendency at Auction is certainly downward.

Jeans.—A small lot of *Sin Wo Beaver* is reported at $2.15. The insignificant quantities at Auction are no criterion of the market.

Drills.—The only transaction we hear of is in an *English* make, namely 1,500 piece *Blue Goat* at $2.92½. There have been a few resales of *American* makes, but nothing from first hands.

Sheetings.—Here the only business reported is in an *American* make, namely 2,000 pieces *Three Goat* to arrive at a sterling price. A few new chops have been offered to this market but no business has resulted.

Fancy Goods.—There is a little more enquiry for *Prints*, but it seem to be more with a view to find our what holders ideas are, no business having resulted so far. The only transactions reported beyond a few retail sales, are in *Turkey Reds*, some 70 cases of which have been taken at slightly easier prices. The small lots of *Cotton Italians* and *Velvets* at Auction keep fairly steady.

Woollens.—There appears to be absolutely no private enquiry at all, although according to the Auctions, considering the rise in Exchange, there is a decidedly firmer feeling. CAMLETS went distinctly better. LONG ELLS show steady to firm prices, but best LASTINGS for some reason declined over two mace, the lower reed being quite steady. SPANISH STRIPES continue to improve gradually, but it is difficult to get current rates for anything but the regular chops.

Cotton Yarn.—The market is unchanged, though slightly weaker owing to the improvement in the Rupee rate. There is evidently more disposition to buy, but the natives are holding off in the hope of getting in at lower rates. The 10s., 12s. and 16s. have been bought for TIENTSIN and NEWCHWANG, the 20s. being taken for CHEFOO and HANKOW. Sales amount to 2,125 bales as follows:—

No. 10s., 576 bales—*Hongkong Mill* $58.25, *China Mill* $59.25, *Anglo-Indian*, Mule $59.50, *Imperial* $60.00, *James Greaves* $60.75/61.00, *Indo-China* and *Empress Mills* $61.00. *Tea Carrier* $62 00, and *Howard and Bullough* $62.75/63.00.

No. 12s., 27 bales—*Bombay National* $62.50, *Pabaney Mill* $64.00 and *Currimbhoy*, Mule $66.50.

No. 16s., 165 bales—*Lord Reay*, Mule, and *Kaisar-i-Hind* (new chop) $66.00, and *Bombay Cotton*, Mule $69.75.

No. 20s, 1,290 bales.—*Ripon*, Ring $71.75, *China Mill* $72.50. *Connaught* $73.00, *Ripon*, Mule 73.50/73.00, *Tea Carrier* and *Anglo Indian*, Ring $73.50 and *Howard and Bullough* $73.50/74.00.

The s.s. *Ballarat* has arrived with 1,700 bales Yarn and 780 bales Cotton.

JAPANESE.—A small business is reported at steady rates, sales amounting to 280 bales as follows:—

No. 16s., 180 bales.—*Blue Fish* and *Three Ring* $71.50 and No. 20s., 100 bales *Three Horse* $76.00.

LOCAL.—Small sales of locally spun 16s. have been placed at $72.50. but the reduction in price does not seem to induce much demand. Cotton is nominally unchanged, holders refusing to lower their prices until they can judge better the prospects for the new crop. It is estimated that 25 per cent. of the total crop is being held.

SHANGHAI, 2nd July, 1898.

The Imperial Maritime Customs Reports for the year 1897 are on the whole decidedly disappointing, as they do not contain anything like the "food for reflection" that was found in the preceeding year's. In the first place the appreciation of the Copper Cash, which was the prevailing and most essential topic touched upon in the all the 1896 Reports, is barely mentioned in those now under review. And secondly the native industry is scarcely noticed at all, and apparently no attempt whatever is being made to ascertain what the production amounts to, although this must have an important bearing on the Import trade and consequently on the Revenue.

Taking the Reports in the order in which they are in the book. NEWCHWANG appears to have enjoyed a satisfactory year, but "the increase in the net value of Foreign merchandise, however, is not due to any expansion in the actual value of Imports." * * * "Speaking in general terms the crops were a decided success." The direct imports of INDIAN Yarn show a falling off of about 20 per cent. and the shipments from here 8 per cent., the total shrinkage being made up by the increase in JAPANESE spinnings, a little less than half of which went direct. Yarn manufactured by Chinese Steam Cotton Mills was imported to extent of 4,560 piculs, against 30 piculs in 1896, but no native Drills or Shirtings appear in these Returns, although in the previous year they figured to extent of 950 and 23,620 pieces respectively, and Chinese Sheetings have fallen from 30,200 to 11,480 pieces. With regard to foreign goods, to quote from the Report, "Grey Shirtings, though less than in the previous year, show a considerably increase on the three years prior to 1896. T-Cloths have declined a good deal. The rapidity with which English Drills have been disappearing may be seen by noting that the importation only four years ago amounted to 80,000 pieces, while during the period under review only 3,000 pieces arrived. (Dutch are put down at 450 pieces, but according to our figures taken from the daily returns English and Dutch amounted to 13,253 pieces!) "The predominant position secured by American Drills and Sheetings, referred to in past Reports, is now one of sheer supremacy. The value these two items aggregate Hk. $3,125,000—that is, not far short of half the gross value of all Foreign arrivals coastwise." *American Politicians please note!* Also this—"The most striking feature in the category of Sundries is the overwhelming importation of Kerosene Oil. in which trade the supremacy of the American brands is exceedingly pronounced, for the large importation of 526,000 gallons in 1896 has been eclipsed by the 2,041,000 gallons to the credit of the period under review. While the growing popularity of Kerosene Oil is undoubted, the extreme dearness of Bean Oil throughout the season was the principal factor in determining the remarkable development in question." * * * "The inelastic character of the trade in Woollen goods continues."

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The Tientsin trade was much hampered by the state of the river that has become almost useless as a waterway, but despite all obstacles the years trade has surpassed all previous records. "Receipts of Cotton Piece Goods are practically on a level with the exceptionally large imports of 1896 and largely in excess of those of any previous year. Grey Shirtings show a decline of 121,000 pieces, White Shirtings of 80,000 pieces, T-Cloths of 100,000 pieces and English Sheetings 54,000 pieces. The notable increases are 60,000 pieces in Jeans and Twills. 107,000 in American Drills and 175,000 in American Sheetings. While Japanese Yarn has increased 45,000 piculs Indian has declined 88,000 piculs and total receipts of Yarn have fallen 47,000 piculs as compared with 1896, but are above the average of previous years. American Kerosene has risen from 2,743,200 to 4,560,500 gallons and Russian from 3,246,000 to 5,208,380 gallons." Direct Imports of all kinds of Piece Goods are rapidly increasing, Japanese articles especially, the Yarn shipments being 38,000 out of a total of 52,000 piculs. In the special comparative table of the gross Import Trade we notice some items are lumped together, for instance *T-Cloths* include *Printed T-Cloths*, and *Grey Jeans* and *Printed Twills* are put together, which is misleading.

The Chefoo trade was not satisfactory, and it is being handled more and more every year by the Natives, the lucrative business in Coal being all that keeps the Foreign Mercantile community there apparently. The trade in Imports from this in both Native and Foreign goods was bad. There was a large decrease in the direct importations. Indian Yarn fell from 44,428 piculs in 1896 to 21,042 piculs out of the total of 56,088 piculs, while on the other hand Japanese Yarn advanced from 4,045 to 42,565 piculs, or just half the total importation. The value of the trade in Foreign goods from Native ports, chiefly Shanghai, showed a substantial increase, Shirtings of all kinds and American Drills being the most prominent, but English and Indian Drills and Sheetings show a falling-off. What is meant by *pieces* of Ginned Cotton, a quantity of which appear to be imported from Shanghai and Hankow?

Passing to the River trade Chungking is the first Report to notice and is one of the most interesting in the book. Even with all the almost insurmountable difficulties attendant on the navigation of the waters of the Upper Yangtsze the trade there continues to improve, the net total value last year being 38 per cent above the figures for 1896, though it is true some of this increase was properly due to the latter year, owing to various reasons that caused great delay in the arrival of Imports. "The trade in Cotton Piece Goods was not very brisk except as regards Grey Shirtings, of which about 100,000 pieces were imported in excess of 1896. Woollen Goods, too, on the whole show a decline. On other hand, Cotton Yarn, of various denominations, and Raw Cotton arrived in unprecedented quantities, the following figures showing the condition of the trade during the last four years:—

		1895.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Indian Yarn	Piculs	124,598	114,565	166,636	188,390
English.....	,,	474	685	34	177
Japanese	,,	45	3	6	8,785
Chinese	,,	2,139	4,053	3,957	33,931
Total.....		127,256	119,306	170,633	231,283
Raw Cotton	Piculs	8,771	32,243	13,088	65,089

These figures indicate that though Japanese and Chinese made Yarn is increasing, the demand in Szechuan for the Indian Article is still holding its own. Yet it can only be a question of time when the supremacy of the latter will be seriously threatened, except if some reversion takes place in the state of the Exchange which will place the Indian article on the market at more reasonable rates. Of Hupeh manufactured Shirtings only 5,000 pieces were passed through this Office, the bulk arriving by Likin junks." With reference to the above figures the report states, "our statistics do not show all the Yarn which enters this province, as fair quantities of Hankow Yarn under special (or free) Passes arrive here in Likin Junks, and such shipments are not taken cognizance of by this Office." It is to be hoped, therefore, that when the I.M. Customs take over the collection of Likin that these Returns will give this additional valuable and interesting information.

Although much harrassed by floods, famine and disease the Ichang trade showed a substantial increase in most plain goods, but there was a falling off in Fancies. Indian Yarn only increase 58 per cent, whereas Japanese more than quadrupled and Chinese more than trebled the figures of the preceding year, while English yarn fell off about 60 per cent. An increase in the rates of Freight does not appear to have interfered with the trade.

As regards Shasi the year under review has not been the success anticipated in the 1896 Report, the Commissioner writing:—"Relying on the favourable situation of the port, it was hoped that it would become the centre and starting point of a great distributing trade, but it must be confessed that the expectations entertained in this respect have not yet been realised, and, judging from the years experience now gained, it may safely be asserted that development will be very slow and not in the immediate future." Since that was written the Commissioner and his staff had to fly for their lives! It seems that with Ichang already in full swing it was quite superfluous to open Shasi, which lost its importance as a forwarding port when the former was made a Treaty Port. The Report states that "Foreign Piece Goods are not likely ever to find a great market here. Native Woven Cloth, on account of its durability, is preferred by the great mass of the people, when garments made of Native Cloth are once worn out they can still be used for the filling of shoe soles" * * * * "Cotton Gins of Japanese manufacture, of which 152 were imported, seem to meet with great favour, and it is likely that the arrivals of these articles will become more considerable in the future."

The Hankow Report is, as usual, chiefly devoted to the Tea Trade, Imports receiving very little attention although the figures show a comparatively satisfactory year. Indian Yarn, however, fell off to the extent of 36,000 piculs, entirely at the expensive of Japanese Spinnings, which show an increase of some 48,000 piculs. The Report mentions "the privilege granted by the Chinese Government of extending the British Concession back to the City wall—thereby just about doubling the present area of the Concession," a privilege that we, in Shanghai, are striving in vain to get! With reference to the propose Railway it goes on to say:—"The progress of the Railway work will depend on the accomplishment of a Foreign Loan, and it is to be hoped that for the benefit of China such a loan will be contracted on a sound basis, in order to secure a real success and to avoid bringing the country into future troubles, compared with which the continued want of railroads would be a mere trifle." Rather a conservative way of looking at it!

In the opening paragraph of the Kiukiang Report the following sentence is quite refreshing: "It is rather remarkable that predictions as to the likelihood of diminishing demands for Manchester goods are being falsified, at this port at least, in spite of their cost having been so much increased to consumers by both the Silver and Copper Cash exchange. * * * * Advancement is observable under almost every heading, * * * * in spite of an enormous increase in Cotton Yarn, English 1½ per cent, Indian 65½ per cent, Japanese 15 per cent, Chinese 18 per cent. In view of these figures one cannot avoid the conclusion that Manchester goods still remain in favour in this province at least, and that the sounding of their funeral knell is yet a long way off." A large increase in the import of Cotton seed points to extended cultivation of the staple in that direction. It is noticeable that the free Passes issued at Kiukiang were greatly in excess of former years, 1,051 being "issued to cover the products of Chinese Cotton factories in Shanghai."

From the Wuhu report we learn that "Foreign Imports kept up their activity fairly well during the year, but, as might be expected from the stimulus given to importations by the redundant export of 1896, our figures for 1897, especially those for Cotton Piece Goods, although considerably above the average of former years, are somewhat lower in almost every particular than those of the year immediately preceding." From the Shanghai Cotton Mills were imported 1,173 piculs of Cotton Yarn, which "judging from the favourable reception it has met with here, may safely be predicted to be only the beginning of a series of large importations in coming years. English Yarn has, as might be expected, almost disappeared from our returns; Indian Yarn has fallen from 10,437 piculs in 1896 to 3,723 piculs in 1897; whilst Japanese Yarn has jumped up from 948 to 9,052 piculs." Why English yarn should be expected to disappear we do not quite see, considering it is of much finer counts than any of the others and does not enter into competition with them.

The Chinkiang Report is not very cheering. After noting with satisfaction the rapid expansion of the Export trade, it says:—"In disappointing contrast to this increase it will be observed that though, thanks to a few items such as Kerosene Oil, Matches and Cotton Yarn, the Import trade has apparently advanced, there is an uninterrupted decline in the demand for Foreign manufactured goods. In this part of the Empire at least the Chinese have learned to make with the cheap yarns hitherto supplied by India and Japan, but henceforth to be had at their own doors, Cloths which have already largely displaced the fabrics of Manchester and are likely to do so to a much great extent in future. This tendency is none the less significant because it shows itself so markedly in a district where transit is easy and the Transit Pass supreme." Speaking of the Imports:—"Among Piece goods, Drills, Sheetings and Cotton Lastings seem to more than hold their own, the decline noticed affecting Shirtings and T-Cloths principally"—which it seems to us are just the goods that do not clash with the native article made from coarse Yarns, although the Report goes on to say, "Indian Cotton Yarn declined slightly, while Japanese gained. The demand for this article is a steadily increasing one and confirms the conclusion put forward in this and former Reports that native cloth is slowly but surely displacing the cheaper grades of its heavily handicapped Foreign rival. It is a noteworthy sign of the times that of the 117,000 piculs Cotton Yarn consumed during the year under review 15,000 piculs were the product of Shanghai Mills, against only 2,000 piculs in 1896." The Cotton Mill that was projected for Chinkiang has so far proved abortive for lack of the necessary capital, but this Report should certainly have a stimulating effect on it!

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The only other of the old Ports that has any important bearing on the Piece Goods trade with this Port is NINGPO, and for Cotton goods 1897 is described as a good average year, *Shirtings*, *T-Cloths*, *Drills* and *Jeans* showing the best results. "Cotton Yarn, having been produced by the Local Mill, has been imported in less quantities," namely 7,139 piculs against 16,822 piculs in 1896. The opening of HANGCHOW has undoubtedly diverted some of the trade from NINGPO. With regard to the Cotton Mill there the report says "an addition of 6,000 spindles has been made, and the mill is run day and night without interruption. The present financial result is therefore an excellent one, but, unless the machinery is given a rest, the final result is certain to be disastrous." The old story of killing the goose!

SOOCHOW and HANGCHOW have now had a clear year's working as open Ports. The preliminary difficulties of organising settlements have been surmounted, but from a business point of view no great benefit has accrued to the Import trade. The report from SOOCHOW mentions that the Cotton Mill there "has 20,000 spindles at work, employs 70 men and 1,700 women and children, and turns out some 2,800 piculs of Yarn per month," or roughly speaking 30 bales a day, which can scarcely be a paying game! The opening of a Foreign Custom House at HANGCHOW, with a branch at KASHING, appears to be greatly appreciated by the native merchants there, but scarcely anything in the way of Piece Goods or Yarn went through. Of the Cotton Mill being erected there the Report says it is intended for a plant of 20,000 spindles, but at present only 15,000 are being prepared for work, and it is expected that the machinery will turn out from 40,000 to 60,000 lbs. a week depending on the number of counts, which vary from 16 to 30s. These Cotton Mills are all lighted throughout by electricity and have the sprinkler installation etc quite up to date.

The following is all that can be gathered of the movements of the Yarn and Piece Goods made in the Mills at present running in CHINA, from which it can be inferred that the bulk of the production is consumed in the localities of the Mills :—

	Yarn	Shirtings and Sheetings	Drills.
EXPORTS FROM			
Hankow	Pcls. 7,281	Pcs. 40,870	Pcs. .....
Shanghai	,, 107,846	,, 46,000	,, 24,105
Ningpo	,, 815	,, ...	,, ...
IMPORTS TO			
Newchwang	Pcls. 4,560	Pcs. 11,480	,, ...
Tientsin	,, 23,084	,, 1,580	,, 16,800
Chefoo	,, 4,494	,, ...	,, ...
Chungking	,, 33,931	,, 1,000	,, ...
Ichang	,, 5,030	,, 300	,, ...
Shasi	,, 60	,, ...	,, ...
Hankow	,, 5,956	,, ...	,, ...
Kiukiang	,, 14,331	,, 1,180	,, ...
Wuhu	,, 1,173	,, ...	,, 600
Chinkiang	,, 18,549	,, ...	,, 3,360
Soochow	,, ...	,, 2,060	,, 465
Shanghai	,, 906	,, 14,000	,, ...
Ningpo	,, 705	,, 11,860	,, 30
Wenchow	,, 708	,, ...	,, ...
Foochow	,, 456	,, ...	,, ...
Amoy	,, 200	,, ...	,, ...
Swatow	,, 297	,, ...	,, ...

SHANGHAI, 4th July, 1898.

The Export figures of last month's shipments of Plain Cotton from MANCHESTER having just come in, and, being so much in excess of former years for the same month, we issue this paragraph, as we have no doubt our readers will be glad to get the information as early as possible. The total is 41,000,000 millions yards against an average of a little less than 26,000,000 yards for the same month the last six years. This makes the total shipments for the half year 216,000,000 yards, nineteen millions in excess of last year, but eleven millions less than 1896. It seems, therefore, that there will be ample supplies to replenish our somewhat depleted stock in the near future. Expected arrivals of AMERICAN goods, it must be remembered, are also very heavy.

The Yarn shipments from MANCHESTER last month were 2,300 bales to HONGKONG, 3,200 bales to JAPAN and 2,000 bales to this Port.

Miscellaneous and Metals.—From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report of 4th July. Once again a most disappointing week has to be reported, and, although home prices are easier all around and the rise in exchange is also in favour of filling much needed supplies, there have been no contracts booked. The Chinese seem to be passing through a period of pessimism, and all are afraid to venture on new business.

In Metals nothing has been done except in small lots at auction, and the principal occupation of the dealers appears to be to find faults with goods arriving. If these are great enough to warrant declining to take delivery the fortunate party is happy.

In Sundries the same state of stagnation prevails. Beyond the few lines mentioned below there has been nothing doing, and the hot weather seems to have stopped even enquiries. The following have been reported :—

1,000 cases Candles, 12 oz. at ₹2.30 case, 50 cases Scarlet, 8 oz. tins at ₹17.00 case, 5,000 boxes Window Glass 8s. 4d. to 8s. 5d.

Kerosene.—Nothing doing. Natives reselling at quotations with no business.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (old) ₹630/700; Patna ₹572, (new) ₹540; Benares ₹572, (new) ₹53.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular of 2nd instant :—

The last advices from London report a quiet market, and Blue Elephant 10/0. The Lyons quotation for Gold Kiling is Fcs. 26.50.

RAW SILK.—In spite of the higher rates of Exchange prevailing the past week, Tael prices show a decided advance and close very strong. Chinese speculators have paid Tls. 435 for Gold Kilings to-day.

ARRIVALS, as per Customs Returns, 25th June to 1st July, are: 2,724 bales White, 90 bales Yellow, and 87 bales Wild Silks.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—A large business has been done in Hand Filatures for America and the Continent, and settlements are about 900 bales; the market closes very strong. A settlement of 50 bales Re-reels Market No. 4 for America is reported.

The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 187 bales to America, 121 bales to the Continent, and 9 bales to England.

WILD SILK.—About 100 bales Tussah Raws and Filatures have changed hands.

WASTE SILK.—A settlement of 100 piculs Filature Tussah Waste 50% No. I, 50% No. II at Tls. 22 is reported.

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Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/7½ and Fcs. 3.29. Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.

	Tls. per pcl.	Stlg. per lb.	Fcs. per kilo
Tsatlees.—Mountain 4	452½	10/3	28.25
,, Kiu Kee Kinling	445	10/1	27.80
,, Bird Seeling	447½	10/1½	27.95
,, Bird Yungling	437½	9/11	27.35
,, Silver Double Elephant	432½	9/9½	27.05
,, Blue ,,	425	9/8	26.60
,, Gold Kiling	430	9/9	26.90
,, Chay Kiling	407½	9/3½	25.55
Hangchow Tsatlees.—Pagoda Tinghow	412½	9/4½	25.85
,, Blue Lion Tayhow	410	9/4	25.70
Taysaams.—Green Kahing M	440	9/11½	27.50
Skeins.—Double Man 3	390	8/10½	24.50
,, Green Monster	360	8/3	22.70

	Tls. per pcl.	Stlg. per lb.	Fcs. per kilo.
Hand Filature—			
Mayhenyu Croisee, Ex., Nos. 1 & 2, avg. pr.	595	13/4½	36.85
Flying Horse Croisee, Ex., Nos. 1 & 2 ,,	565	12/8½	35.10
Wosan Dong Croisee, 1, 2 & 3 ,,	595	13/4½	36.85
Fighting Cock Chop Croisee, A.B.C. ,,	600	13/5½	37.20
Cock and Centiped Croisee, 1 & 2 ,,	575	12/11	35.70
Bicycle Chop (not Croisee), 1, 2 & 3 ,,	540	12/2	33.55
Re-reel.—Steam Boat Chop	440	9/11½	27.50
Steam Filature—			
Market Chop Second Choice, 13/15 Den	710	15/8½	43.90
Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw	160	3/10½	10.60

		1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.	
Settlements for this mail	about	2,000	1,500	100	500	1,000	1,000	bales.
,, ,, season including forward contracts	,,	11,000	8,000	3,100	18,000	4,750	11,500	,,
Stock §	,,	4,500	4,500	10,000	6,500	11,000	6,000	,,
Total Arrivals, including Steam Filatures	,,	11,300	12,500	13,100	23,750	15,750	17,500	,,

§ Including 2,150 bales old Silk.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Japan, Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.	
Export of Steam Filatures in pls.	9	121	130	187	...	...	317	bales.
Export White Silk in Bales of 80 catties	254	2,393	2,647	10	26	20	2,703	,,
,, Yellow Silk in piculs	15	6	21	...	184	31	236	,,
,, Wild ,, ,,	...	1,104	1,104	...	...	20	1,124	,,
Total	278	3,624	3,902	197	210	71	4,380	,,
Against in 1897-98	81	2,925	3,006	800	23	61	3,890	,,
,, 1896-97	69	2,251	2,320	172	121	161	2,774	,,
,, 1895-96	194	6,177	6,371	720	536	133	7,760	,,
,, 1894-95	288	2,072	2,360	443	586	109	3,498	,,
,, 1893-94	830	7,004	7,834	266	747	149	8,996	,,
,, 1892-93	450	5,842	6,292	235	330	198	7,055	,,
Export Waste Silk	636	859	1,495	..	10	117	1,622	piculs
Against in 1897-98	335	467	802	...	...	13	815	,,
,, 1896-97	548	348	896	...	1	29	926	,,
,, 1895-96	585	894	1,479	465	...	11	1,955	,,
Export Cocoons	...	...	...	...	...	53	53	,,
Against in 1897-98	...	...	...	...	...	144	144	,,
,, 1896-97	45	...	45	...	...	201	246	,,
,, 1895-96	...	27	27	...	...	77	104	,,

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also ... piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.
,, 197 ,, ,, ,, ,, Continent.

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Tea.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular of 2nd instant:—

Our last "printed" Tea market advices were under date 18th ultimo.

Black Tea.—Hankow.—As the Russians have been short in Common Teas this season, they took most of the weathery First Crop Teas, leaving a very small stock when the Second Crop arrived.

Second Crop Ningchows are of satisfactory quality and selling from Tls. 18 @ 26. Second Crop Hankow Teas are of fair quality, but prices have been extremely high on account of the Russian demand for low cost Teas, and it is likely that very little will be sent to London or America. Nip Ka Sees, which are selling at Tls. 13 @ 13½, are said to pay the natives Tls. 3 @ 4 per picul, and this will probably induce them to bring down large supplies of Common Teas later on. Shantams Tls. 12 @ 12¾ (=5⅛d. @ 5⅜d).

In Black Tea very few parcels have been offered on this market, and no business worth recording has been done. The shipments from Hankow to the United States have been almost as large as those of the previous season and we think they are generally of a higher quality. To Great Britain shipments continue to fall off and will do so until machinery takes the place of hand or foot labour.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow	458 half-chest,	@ Tls. 24	to 24¾ a picul.
Kutoan	235 ,,	,, ,, 23	,, 23½ ,,
Wenchow	167 ,,	,, ,, 15½	,, 15¾ ,,
	860 half-chests.		

Stock, 3,623 half-chests, against 6,169 half-chests at same last year.

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GREEN TEA.—The only Teas which have been dealt in so far are Pingsueys and Local packs or Wenchow leaf Teas. Pingsueys continue to be of excellent quality in water and in infusion, but business in them is checked by telegrams from America which discourage buying at present prices. Teamen, however, are firm holders and no material decline is likely to be established for some time to come, as they assert that the quantity of Tea obtainable of similar good quality to arrivals to date is limited, and they feel confident that a demand will arise as soon as musters reach the consuming markets. Local packs are less firmly held. These Teas are stronger than those of last year, but possess the well-known characteristics of mawkishness and lack of burntness. One chop of Whapoo has been shown, but no business has yet resulted.

The chief feature of the demand has been the desire to buy Teas for price. Nearly every American buyer wants them, and prices for sweet common Teas are the highest known for some years past. These Teas had been unduly depressed for many seasons by the spurious Pingsueys which were sold as Teas, and though prices are high at the moment it is a much healthier state of trade that buyers should pay up for clean drinkable Teas, and that spurious Teas should be entirely eliminated. The effect of the demand for common Teas will probably be that clean common leaf, which is ordinarily sold to Tea shops for native consumption, will be packed for Foreign use. The news of the Duty being imposed in the United States was sent to the producing districts as quickly as possible, and it stopped all further buying in Tienkai and Moyune, but the strong demand for common Tea will probably counter-balance any shortage that might occur in finer qualities. It is much too early to speak confidently, but we look for a crop as large as it was last season, and a larger quantity of consumable Tea will be available for shipment to the United States than was the case last season.

Settlements reported are:—

Pingsuey	6,050 half-chests,	@ Tls. 22½ *a* 36½ a picul.
Local packed	3,235 „	„ „ 21 22 Lines Tls. 24/32.
	9,285 half-chests.	

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	Settlements.		Stock.	
	1898 × 1899. Half-chests.	1897 × 1898. Half-chests.	1898 × 1899. Half-chests.	1897 × 1898. Half-chests.
Pingsuey	7,169	1,003	11,846	9,339
Local packed	3,235	3,972	3,933	347
Total	10,404	4,975	15,779	10,583

EXPORT OF TEA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

		Black. lbs.	*Green.* lbs.
From commencement of season to 18th June, 1898		3,837,039	.....
Cleared June 17th, *Java* (s.)	for London	645,704	.....
„ „ 18th, *Myrmidon* (s.)	„	195,245	.....
„ „ 22nd, *Orestes* (s.)	„	768,132	.....
„ „ 27th, *Armenia* (s.)	„	1,359	.....
„ „ 28th, *Sydney* (s.)	„	9,539	.....
„ „ 28th, *Ceylon* (s.)	„	457,968	10,068
Total to date, 1898		5,914,986	10,068
Do. 1897		7,538,126	20,049
Do. 1896		9,158,480	Nil.

EXPORT OF TEA TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

		Black. lbs.	*Green.* lbs.
From commencement of season to 18th June, 1898		1,132,577	.....
Cleared June 18th, *Gaelic* (s.)	for San Francisco	219,339	.....
„	Chicago	20,297	14,128
„	Portland	4,184	.....
„	New York	.....	30,300
„ „ 20th, *Afridi* (s.)	for New York	468,025	.....
„ „ 22nd, *Orestes* (s.)	for New York	3,160	.....
„ „ 29th, *St. Ninian* (s.)	for New York	220,848	99,548
„ July 2nd, *Empress of India* (s.)	for ———	Cargo not yet circulated.	
Total to date, 1898		2,068,430	143,976
Do. 1897		2,191,238	95,587
Do. 1896		1,523,962	.....

EXPORT OF BLACK TEA TO RUSSIA DIRECT.

		lbs.
From commencement of season to 18th July, 1898		8,394,515 lbs.
Cleared June 15th, *Nijni Novgorod* (s.)		3,770,436
„ „ 20th, *Afridi* (s.), tranship at Port Said		112,039
„ „ 22nd, *Orestes* (s.)		10,598
Total to date, 1898		12,287,588
Do. 1897		14,229,694

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Freights.—For London rates are £2.5.0 a ton of 40 c. ft. The *Priam* (loading), *Bengloe* and *Shanghai* (to arrive).

For New York. *Pathan* is loading at £1.10.0. *Benmohr* (to arrive).

Tea viâ Pacific routes 1½ gold cents per lb. gross.

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London Telegraphic Transfers, 2s. 6⅞d. Banks Bills, 2s. 6⅞d. Banks Bills, 4 months' sight, 2s. 7d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 2s. 7¼d.; 6 months' sight, 2s. 7⅜d.; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 2s. 7⅜d.: 6 months' sight, 2s. 7½d. On France—Bank Bills, Transfer Fcs. 3.24. Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 3.28½, 6 months' sight, 3.29½. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks, 2.67, lowest 2.67, highest 2.68½. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, per Ŧ100 G.$64¼, lowest 64, highest 64¾. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 74¾, lowest 74¾, highest 76 nom. per $100. Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 73¾, lowest 73¾, highest 75. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, Ŧ79, lowest 79½, highest 78¾ per Yen 100. Private Bills 15 days' sight, Ŧ78, lowest 78½, highest 78. On Bombay and Calcutta Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 196, lowest 196, highest 197 per Ŧ100. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 196½, lowest 196½, highest 197½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Shanghai, 98 touch, Ŧ375.00, lowest 371 00, highest 378.00. Silver Bars, Ŧ111.10, lowest 111.10, highest 111.10. Mexican dollars, Ŧ75.125, lowest 75 05, highest 75.4. Carolus dollars, Ŧ93.00, lowest 92.00, highest 94.00. Copper Cash 1,190, lowest 1,180, highest 1,190. Chinese Interest, mace 5.5, lowest 3.00, highest 5.5. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 27⅛ *a* ¼, lowest 27⅛, highest 27 7/16.

Daily Quotations.

(From Messrs. Morriss, Fergusson & Robertson's Circular.)

June.	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	On London. T. Transfers. Lowest.	Highest.	Bank 4 m/s. Lowest.	Highest.	Credits 4 m/s. Lowest.	Highest.	Docty. 4 m/s. Lowest.	Highest.	France. Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do. Lowest.	Highest.	Germany. 4 m/s. Priv.	New York. Docty. 4 m/s.	Hongkong.	Yokohama. T/T	India. T/T Rup.
28th......	27 5/16	2.7	2.7¼	2.7⅛	2.7¼	2.7½	2.7½	2.7⅝	2.7⅝	3.31/3.32	3.31/3.32	2.68½	64¾	76	79	196
29th..	27 5/16/7/16	2.7	2.7¼	2.7⅛	2.7¼	2.7½	2.7½	2.7⅝	2.7⅝	3.31/3.32	3.31/3.32	2.68½	64¾	76	79	196
30th......	27 7/16	2.7	2.7⅛	2.7⅛	2.7⅛	2.7⅜	2.7½	2.7½	2.7⅝	3.30/3.31	3.31/3.32	2.68½	64¾	76	79	196
4th July	27⅛/¼	2.6⅞	2.7	2.7	2.7⅛	2.7 3/16	2.7¼	2.7 5/16	2.7⅜	3.28/3.29	3.28½/29½	2.67	64¼	74¾	79	196

Shares.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report of 4th July:—

The Summer holidays of the Banks have tended to check business, and the amount done has not been large.

Banks.—Cash shares changed hands at 201 to 202 per cent. premium, closing at 201 with sellers. Shares were also placed for July at 204, and for October at 209 per cent. In Hongkong there were sales at 194 per cent. The London rate is £46.10.0.

Marine Insurance.—*China Traders' Insurance* shares were placed to Hongkong at $61. A sale of *Straits Insurance* shares was made there at $10. *Yangtsze Insurance* shares are weak, with sellers.

Fire Insurance.—*Chinas* were sold at $99. In Hongkong there are sellers of *Hongkongs* at $332.50, and of *Chinas* at $99.

Shipping.—*Indo-China S.N.* shares were placed for the settlement at Ŧ45.00 and Ŧ44.50. The rate then improved in Hongkong to $61.50, at which Shanghai holders sold shares, the price being equal to Ŧ46. *China Mutual S. N.* Preference shares were placed at Ŧ72.50. Ordinary shares are offering.

Sugar Companies.—*Perak Sugar* shares are offering at Ŧ40. Hongkong quotes buyers of *China Sugar Refining* shares at $166. *Luzon Sugar* shares are neglected.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Business has been confined to *Shanghai Dock* shares at Ŧ81 and Ŧ82. Shares in *S. C. Farnham & Co.* are wanted at Ŧ176. *Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf* shares are offering at Ŧ120, while there are buyers at Ŧ118.

Lands.—*Shanghai Land Investment* shares are quiet at Ŧ88.

Industrial.—*Shanghai Gas* shares changed hands at Ŧ217, and *Major Brothers* shares at Ŧ35. In *Cotton Mill* shares:—*Internationals* were sold at Ŧ105 cash, and Ŧ110 to Ŧ109 for October; and *Laou-kung-mows* at Ŧ101 cash and Ŧ106 for October. *Shanghai Rice Mill* shares changed hands at Ŧ25. *China Flour Mill* shares at Ŧ55, and *American Cigarette* shares at Ŧ90.

Tugs & Cargo Boats.—*Shanghai Cargo Boat* shares were placed at Ŧ170.

Miscellaneous.—*Shanghai Waterworks* shares changed hands at Ŧ300. *Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco* shares were sold at Ŧ79 cash and Ŧ85 for the 31st October. *Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco* shares found sellers at Ŧ220, 200 and 210. Shares are offering at the close. A cross transaction was done at Ŧ215 for cash and Ŧ240 for October, which was simply an expensive way of obtaining a loan. *Shanghai Horse Bazaar* shares placed at Ŧ68, *Hall and Holtz* shares at $38.50 and *Central Stores* shares at $10.

Loans.—*Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf* 6 per cent Debentures were placed at Ŧ102 and *Perak Sugar Cultivation* 7 per cent Debentures at Ŧ99. The *Shanghai Municipal Council's* new issue of Debentures for Ŧ300,000 at 6 per cent has all been taken up, at slightly above par.

Loans.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest	When Payable	Return on Inv. allowing for Amortization.	Closing.	
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1890	Ŧ20,000.00	Ŧ20,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 5.87%	... (*a*)	nom.
Do. 1891	Ŧ20,000.00	Ŧ20,000.00	Ŧ100	5½ %	Do.	(*g*) 5.50%	... (*a*)	Ŧ100.00
Do. 1892	Ŧ50,000.00	Ŧ50,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	Do.	(*a*) 5.42%	... (*a*)	Ŧ96.00
Do. 1893	Ŧ125,000.00	Ŧ125,000.00	Ŧ100	5½ %	Do.	(*g*) 5.50%	... (*a*)	Ŧ100.00
Do. 1894	Ŧ105,000.00	Ŧ105,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	Do.	(*g*) 5.90%	... (*a*)	Ŧ101.00
Do. 1895	Ŧ115,000.00	Ŧ115,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	Do.	(*g*) 5.40%	... (*a*)	Ŧ96.00
Do. 1896	Ŧ140,000.00	Ŧ140,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	Do.	(*g*) 5.35%	... (*a*)	Ŧ96.00
Do. 1897	Ŧ268,000.00	Ŧ268,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	Do.	(*g*) 5.16%	... (*a*)	Ŧ96.00
Do. 1888	Ŧ300,000.00	Ŧ300,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	Do.	..	... (*a*)	Ŧ100.00
Lyceum Theatre Debentures...............	Ŧ17,000.00	Ŧ17,000.00	Ŧ25	4 %	(*l*) 30 June 1889	...	...	Ŧ16.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	S. Ŧ635,700.00	Ŧ680,104.00	Ŧ250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	(*g*) 5.98%	... (*a*)	Ŧ275.00
Shanghai Land Inv. Co. Debentures. 1890	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	May & Nov.	(*g*) 5.76%	... (*a*)	Ŧ102.00
Do. Do. 1892	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ100	5½ %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 5.93%	... (*a*)	Ŧ96.00
Do. Do. 1894	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(*g*) 5.80%	... (*a*)	Ŧ102.00
Do. Do. 1896	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ250,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 5.44%	.. (*a*)	Ŧ95.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co. Debentures ['94]	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(*g*) 5.90%	... (*a*)	Ŧ101.00
Do. ,, ['96]	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 5.44%	... (*a*)	Ŧ95.00
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. ,,	Ŧ400,000.00	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100	6 %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 5.82%	... (*a*)	Ŧ102.00
Perak Sugar C. Co. Debentures 1896	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100	7 %	June & Dec.	(*g*) 7.16%	... (*a*)	Ŧ99.00
Shanghai Gas Co. ,, 1897	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100,000.00	Ŧ100	5 %	April & Oct.	(*g*) 5.43%	... (*a*)	Ŧ95.00

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Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 1st July, 1898, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 145 to 150, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destinations.																	
	Ningpo.	Wênchow.	Taikinan.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chunking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Soochow & Hangchow.	Corea.	Vladivostock.	Locals.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings † .....Pcs.	18,528	3,630	14,555	2,005	4,730	22,289	...	8,940	11,730	1,685	295	...	...	...	15,220	220	9,000	...
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... ,,	665	710	2,205	160	545	1,000	...	1,960	2,409	675	3300	...	...	...	210	110	800	...
,, 36-in. ..... ,,	306	...	...	25	143	...	...	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...
,, Indian, 32 & 36-in ... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
White Shirtings ..... ,,	1,149	500	1,230	308	3,160	7,330	...	760	4,645	600	330	200	250	..	597	3910	3,000	500
Drills, English & Indian. ,,	...	...	135	...	30	390	.	150	...	150	30	...	300	...	30	275	350	...
,, Dutch ..... ,,	...	...	30	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
,, American ..... ,,	300	...	765	...	..	3,525	...	2,775	7,610	1,830	...	...	...	...	30	...	450	...
Jeans, English & Indian. ,,	30	...	60	...	80	...	...	100	300	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	240	...
,, Dutch ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
,, American ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	360	640	2,467	3,170	2,980	2,420	..	1,480	440	440	...	...	...	...	660	200	400	...
,, Indian ..... ,,	...	...	...	..	30	...	...	...	...	570	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
,, American..... ,,	80	100	135	...	..	240	...	12,146	24,975	3,780	...	...	...	...	...	200	600	..
Dyed Shirtings..... ,,	...	...	3,265	...	...	50	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	40	130	150	...
Bro. &Sp. S'tings, D.&W. ,,	...	...	50	...	50	..	...	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Chintzes..... ,,	60	...	120	...	140	80	...	218	480	60	...	...	...	...	120	...	200	...
Printed T-Cloths ..... ,,	180	...	800	120	530	641	..	537	972	229	...	292	...	...	356	50	400	...
Printed Twills ..... ,,	220	...	60	50	100	1,030	...	120	120	...	..	..	...	...	...	28	250	...
Turkey Red Shirtings... ,,	25	150	335	110	175	580	...	385	962	...	75	...	...	...	150	2	180	...
Velvets ..... ,,	...	...	60	...	84	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	—	60	...
Velveteens..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	...	...	...	320	200	...	235	1,300	1,000	...	...	...	..			2,000	...
Muslins .....Pcs.	200	...	400	...	...	100		650	...	...	...	...	...	..	12,800	400	200	...
Lenos & Balzarines ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	1,674	...	300	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian ...Pcls.	..	...	1,086	111	312	561	282	735	1,590	1,365	75	3	...	...	3	12	300	...
,, English ... ,,	...	...	...	...	12	204	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	30	
,, Japan ... ,,	15	...	30	60	30	735	...	1,922	258	300	...	...	...	...		...	60	35
,, Shanghai.. ,,	...	...	60	...	30	...	.	195	1,215	...	...	...	...	...		...	.	40
Spanish Stripes, Woollen Pcs.	12	...	...	...	132	72	...	6	48	...	...	...	...	...	24	..	60	...
,, Cotton. ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	...
Medium & Broad Cloths. ,,	...	...	6	...	..	...	...	6	...	12	...	...	...	...	50	...	80	...
Camlets ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	80	290	...	40	40	...	...	...	..	..	.	...	100	...
Long Ells..... ,,	...	...	...	...	110	160	...	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	20	...	..	160	...		80	140	...	...	...	...	...	20	80	...
Italian Cloth ..... ,,	60	...	22	...	...	152	...	90	90	230	...	..	..	...	60	30	180	...
Cotton Lastings&Italians ,,	80	...	300	...	380	620	...	1,269	760	971	...	...	...	...	877	290	500	...
Plain &Figured Orleans. ,,	...	...		...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Flannels..... ,,	20	...	...	...	60	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	100	.
do. Japan..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	480	...	...	...	...	...
Lead—in Pigs .....Pcls.	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...
Iron, Nail Rod ..... ,,	63	...	791	...	172	...	...	630	84	546	...	...	...	76	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American.Case	700	...	900	2,120	5,690	9,500	...	4,000	1,500	6,000	.	...	...	26150	...	...	...	...
,, Russian ... ,,	300	...	...	..		2,30	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Total Deliveries.			Total Imports.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 31st Dec., 1897.	
	As above.	of the year from 1st Jan. 1898.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1898.	Against last year to same term.	At date Estimated.	Against 1st July, 1897.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	113,227	2,836,797	3,318,678	271,762	2,384,933	2,517,596	773,136	1,110,620
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... ,,	14,749	489,108	563,916	37,902	374,753	438,708	200,645	167,250
,, 36-in ..... ,,	1,184	37,932	54,295	4,504	63,426	56,597	92,949	64,557
,, Indian, 32 & 36-in.... ,,	300	27,700	171,101	.....	1,840	222,620	54,130	80,495
White Shirtings ..... ,,	28,469	1,011,167	1,034,990	89,351	779,910	948,949	339,743	571,373
Drills, Eng. & Indian ..... ,,	1,840	100,767	137,854	8 699	69,820	76,887	24,747	89,114
,, Dutch ..... ,,	130	14,350	.....	..	1,800	.....	8,135	.....
,, American ..... ,,	47,285	482,796	451,978	65,310	433,061	509,526	494,255	358,808
Jeans, Eng. & Indian ..... ,,	1,010	52,585	94,401	4,410	83,752	71,670	63,787	35,915
,, Dutch ..... ,,	80	17,910	.....	.....	15,990	.....	22,780	.....
,, American ..... ,,	400	30,560	29,615	2,000	28,600	27,000	2,040	4,305
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	15,657	363,344	459,842	43,249	263,338	302,150	?	97,791
,, Indian..... ,,	800	10,170	72,950	1,020	1,800	13,320	?	8,905
,, American ..... ,,	42,256	1,398,537	1,134,572	98,360	810,130	1,278 888	281,593	1,175,406
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	3,635	87,552	116,175	1,720	35,708	95,631	?	11,468
Bro. & Spot. Shts., D. & W. ,,	333	13,404	25 276	129	3,589	21,924	14,227	23,549
Chintzes..... ,,	1,478	102,105	120,398	2,101	4,683	152,435	?	66,539
Printed T-Cloths .. .. ,,	5,107	285,805	373,731	8,959	83,150	332,862	227,345	406,327
Printed Twills ..... ,,	1,978	57,198	68,840	1,768	12,773	89,263	59,044	124,110
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	3,129	115,112	137,040	3,974	80,319	78,103	35,207	195,649
Velvets ..... ,,	264	7,740	10,583	176	3,673	19,051	15,008	27,212
Velveteens..... ,,	54	5,590	6,099	48	624	7,685	9,153	17,744
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	5,055	184,787	268,408	15,623	95,072	195,693	90,136	347,605
Muslins .....Pcs.	14,750	149,798	134,669	12,750	103,374	131,064	78,452	96,862
Lenos & Balzarines ..... ,,	2 034	71,005	44,795		63,235	36,615	5,110	3,937
Cotton Yarn, Indian .....Pcls.	6,435	342,446	361,487	17,874	318,204	282,826	85,870	44,066
,, English ..... ,,	297	14 030	16,665	2,181	18,192	13,468	7,250	2,970
,, Japan ..... ,,	3,440	105,808	67,157	3,300	122,652	80,176	25,571	30,015
,, Shanghai..... ,,	1,545	79.060	.....	..	1,884	.....	?	.....
Spanish Stripes, Woollen..Pcs.	354	12,412	16,622	1,080	12,739	16,489	12,359	13,627
,, Cotton .... ,,	192	15,067	22,416	2,264	7,620	25,186	10,703	24,098
Med. & Broad Cloths ..... ,,	154	8,908	9,956	90	6,586	14,949	12,304	17,295
Camlets ..... ,,	550	16,238	22,127	760	12,727	20.546	14,389	15,449
Long Ells ..... ,,	390	21,245	27,939	2,070	12,370	25,176	39,560	63,162
Lastings ..... ,,	500	25,088	35,749	910	15,032	46,486	13,737	31,731
Italian Cloth ..... ,,	914	38,400	47,644	1,653	30,898	62,720	49,498	68,085
Cotton Lastings & Italians ,,	6,047	458,507	517,608	23,562	326,696	728,921	338,189	615,179
Plain & Figured Orleans ... ,,	....	260	510	...	.....	1,563	1,640	5,453
Cotton Flannels..... ,,	320	10,074	8,997	.....	8,161	4,656	56,638	64,389
,, ,, Japan ..... ,,	480	1,047	1,125	.....	558	2,435	?	3,060
Lead in Pigs..... ...Pcls.	.....	24,426	40,576	.....	28,476	58,284	4,550	26,188
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,362	72,791	71,804	3,360	99,354	39,399	91,462	100,113
Kerosine Oil, American ..Cases	56,560	759,065	1,275,967	169,802	1,538,455	1,296,523	996,051	?
,, Russian ... ,,	2,600	181,505	856,979	.....	29,717	1,208,924	?	?

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SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 4th July, 1898.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report. Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	Last Divd. &c. To Shareholders	When paid or due.	Average dividends for 3 years.	Return on investment on average of 3 years' divids.	Cash Quotation Closing.	
Banks.										per cent.		Tls.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Co.	80,000	$125	$125	$8,000,000	$298,863.22	31-12-97	*£1½	14- 2-98	$23.96	6.36	$376.25	274.66
Bank of China & Japan Ld. ordinary shares	106,701	£8	£4	... ..	£149,481.16.3	31-12-97	None.	.....	...	.....	... .	nom.
Do. deferred do.	1,105	£1	£1	.. ...	...	.....		.. ...	...	.....	£5.5.0	.....
National Bank of China, Ld. ..	46,453	£10	£8								6.76	17.75	12.96
Do.	3,818	£10	..	$109,426.64	$4,523.23	31-12-97	†$1.18	1- 3-97	$1.20		...	nominal	nom.
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1								...	$23.00	16.79
Insurance (Marine.)												
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	10,000	$250	$50	$1,286,000.00 (c) 878,648.54	$674,784.53	30- 6-97	†$16	15-10-97	$14.33	6.43	$222.50	162.42
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ld. ..	24,000	$83.33	$25	$1,240,000.00 c 158,393.77	$351,807.25	30- 4-97	†$5	4- 10-97	$5.00	8.00	$62.50	45.62
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.....	5,000	£100	£25	T$250,000.00	T266,252.64	31-12-97	†T20	29- 4-98	T$18.22	10.00	.....	182.50
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'tion, Ld	6,948	$100	$60	$516,000.00 c $85,561.27	$365,858.07	31-12-97	‖$6	23- 4-98	$12.00	9.24	$130.00	94.90
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$1,300,000	$4,276.22	31-12-96	‡$5	13- 1-98	$11.00	8.00	$137.50	100.37
Straits Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	$100	$20	$3,220.00	$249,521.11	31-12-97	†$2	27- 3-96	$0.67	0.58	$11.50	8.40
Insurance (Fire.)												
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ld....	8,000	$250	$50	$1,046,763.76	$288,875.16	31-12-97	†$26½	28- 2-98	$19.75	5.81	$340.00	248.20
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld..	20,000	$100	$20	$1,000,000	$237,802.90	31-12-97	†$6.65	28- 2-98	$6.85	6.92	$99.00	72.27
Shipping.												
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B.Co..	80,000	$15	$15	d $609,000	$37,344.58	31-12-97	*$1.20	29- 1-98	$2.22	8.54	$26.00	18.98
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£60,000.0.0	£1,380.16.3	31-12-96	†T$5.07	2- 7-95	T$3.38	7.35	.....	46.00
Douglas Steamship Co. Ld. ...	20,000	$50	$50	$115,698.13 c 50,684.56	.. ...	30- 6-97	†$4.00	27- 9-97	$6.00	10.17	$59.00	45.07
Ch. Mutual S.N.Co. pref. shares.	16,736	£10	£10									
Do. ord. do.	1,231	£10	£10	e£17,388.1.0	£1,305.16.11	31-12-97	*3%	31- 3-98	T4.30	5.93	.....	72.50
Do. do. do.	15,505	£10	£5	d£122,769.17.0			†6%	31- 3-98	T4.33	.....	.....	nom.
Sugar Companies.							†6%	31- 3-98	T2.17	8.34	.....	26.00
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ld.	5,000	T$50	T$50	..	§T7,156.07	31- 8-97	†T2	23- 1-96	T0.67	1.66	.....	40.00
China Sugar Refining Co. Ld...	20,000	$100	T100	$140,000	§13,753.51	31-12-97	‖$10	23- 3-98	$6.33	4.04	$169.00	123.37
Luzon Sugar Refining Co. Ld..	7,000	$100	T100	none	$5,900.31	31-12-97	†$3	23- 3-98	$2.67	6.35	$42.00	30.66
Mining.												
Sheridan Con. M. & M.o., Ld..	20,000	T100	T100	... ...	§T154,503.62	31-12-97	None.	..	none	... ..	.....	2.50
Punjom Mining Co. Ld.	60,000	$8	$5								$6.50	4.75
Do. pref. shares.	30,000	$1	$1	.. ..	.....	.....	First	year	...	.. ...	$1.80	1.31
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co. Ld	45,000	$5	$5	... ..	§$8,563.71	21- 1-98	*5%	15-10-94	$0.48	12.47	$3.85	2.81
Raub A'lian Gold Min. Co. Ld.	200,000	£1	14/10	none	£2,361.17.11	31- 3-97	† 0.51	7- 2-98	$0.33	0.89	$37.00	27.01
Docks, Wharves and Godowns.												
Boyd & Co., Ld., Founders' ..	200	T100	T100				†T117	29- 6-98	T$78.00	.....	.....	nom.
Boyd & Co., Ld., Ordinary...	7,800	T100	T100	T220,000.00	T8.585.40	30- 4-98	†T15	29- 6-98	T$13.67	7.39	...	185.00
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ld.	7,500	T100	T100	T275,000	T18 356.95	30- 6-97	†T12	9- 9-97	T$12.67	7.16	.....	177.00
S'hai E. S. & Dock Co., Ld. ord.	6,000	T100	T100	.....	T14,916.64	30- 4-97	None.	.....	...	...	.....	82.00
Do. Founders'	200	T100	T100	.. ...				...	...	...	.....	200.00
H'kong & W'poa Dock Co., Ld.	12,500	$125	$125	$700,000	$107,284.73	31-12-97	*12½	22- 2-98	$27.92	6.04	$461.87	337.17
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co ...	15,100	T100	T100	.....	†16,137.20	31-12-97	‖$5	23- 3-98	T7.75	6.68	.....	120.00
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ld	20,000	$50	$50	...	c9,808.81	31-12-97	‖$1.50	22- 2-98	$1.94	3.23	$60.00	43.80
Lands.												
S'hai Land Investment Co., Ld.	26,000	T50	T50	T200,000.00	T4,614.61	31-12-97	‖$3.25	7- 2-98	T4.38	4.97	.....	88.00
H'kong Land Invest. & A. Co. Ld.	50,000	$100	$50	$1,250,000	§57,856.26	31-12-97	‖ $4	29- 1-98	$4.00	5.51	$72.50	52.92
Kewkon Land & Building Co. Ld	5,960	$50	$30	none	$164.60	31-12-97	†$1.00	27- 1-98	$0.87	4.97	$17.50	12.77
Humphreys Estate & F. Co. Ld.	30,000	$10	$10	$25,000.00	$934.68	31-12-97	†6%	5- 3-98	$0.59	6.94	8.50	6.20
Industrial.												
S'hanghai Gas Co.....	3,000	T100	T100	T100,000	T37,574.22	31-12-97	‖T8.00	20- 1-98	T14.41	6.64	.....	217.00
Major Brothers, Ld.....	5,500	T50	T50	.....	.. ...	31-12-97	...	.....	.....	.....	... ..	35.00
Ewo Cotton Sp. & W. Co., Ld.	10,000	T100	T100	... .	T2,303.86	31-10-97	†T3.50	24-11-97	...	.....	... ..	99.00
International Cotton Man. Co Ld	7,620	T100	T100	.....	T2,678.69	30- 9-97	†T3.50	8-11-97	...	.....	.. ..	105.00
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld....	6,000	T100	T100	.....	T21,108.37	31-12-97	None.	.....	...	.....	....	101.00
Soy Chee Cotton Spin. Co. Ld.	2,000	T500	T500	T2,366.61	T469.00	1- 2-98	†T20	.....	...	... .	... .	505.00
Yah Loong Cotton Spin. Co., Ld	7,500	T100	T100	.....	.....	.....	First	year	...	...	.....	70.00
Shanghai Ice Co.	540	T100	T100	T6,860.00		31-10-97	†T6	20- 1-97	T9.00	8.04	... ..	112.00
Shanghai Rice Mill Co. Ld. ..	2,000	T25	T25	...	T649.65	31-12-97	T1.75	7- 2-98	...	.....	.....	25.00
China Flour Mill Co., Ld	4,000	T50	T50	1,206.24	.....	31-12-97	None.	.....	...	.....	.....	55.00
American Cigarette Co., Ld. ...	1,500	T50	T50	.. ...	..... (k)	.. ...	...	.. ...	...	...	.....	90.00
H'kong Cotton S. W. & D. Co., Ld.	9,000	$100	$40	..	.. ...	.....	First	year	...	.....	$22.00	16.06
S'hai Feather Cleaning Co., Ld.	300	T500	T500	... .	... .	...	First	year	...	.. ...	.....	500.00
Tugs and Cargo Boats.												
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ld.	1,000	T100	T100	T75,000	T780.00	31-12-97	‡T5	21- 6-98	T20	9.75	.....	205.00
Lalu Tug and Lighter Co., Ld.	8,600	T.T50	T.T50	TT.120,000.00 c 36,951.10	T7,935.65	31-12-96	‖7%	27- 2-96	T7.67	6.98	T.T110.00	.....
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co. Ld....	2,000	T100	T100	T125,425.39	T4,059.45	31-12-97	‖7%	5- 3-98	T15.33	9.02	.....	170.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Ld.	1,000	T100	T100	T57,152.84	T2,048.66	31-12-97	‖6%	5- 3-98	T13.67	8.54	.. ..	160.00
Miscellaneous.												
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	7,200	£20	£20	T30,000.00	T8,706.64	31-12-97	‖T10.08	7- 4-98	T13.76	4.58	..	300.00
Tientsin Waterworks Co., Ld..	650	T100	T100	.....	.....	.. ...	First	year	...	.....	T.T101.00	.....
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	13,000	$20	$20	T42,000.00	T535.06	31-12-97	‖T3.72	16- 3-98	T6.47	8.19	.....	79.00
Shanghai-Langkat Tob. Co., Ld.	3,980	T100	T100	... .	§T199,114.02	31-12-96	None.	.....	...	.....	..... (f)	210.00
Do. New issue	4,000	T100	T50	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	...	... ..	.....	nom.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	1,800	T50	T50	.....	T4,040.09	31-12-97	†10%	23- 4-98	T4.33	6.37	.....	68.00
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.....	1,200	$100	$100	... ..	$1,166.77	31-12-97	†$4	1- 6-98	$1.33	2.18	$61.00	44.53
Hall & Holtz, Ld	6,250	$20	$20	$145,000.00	$6,031.59	28- 2-98	‖$2	30- 4-98	$3.67	9.53	$38.50	28.10
A. S. Watson & Co., Ld.....	60,000	$10	$10	$125,000	$9,239.01	31-12-97	‖5%	30- 5-98	$1.00	8.70	$11.50	8.40
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ld.	8,200	£1	£1	.....	£135.13.10	31-12-96	None.	.. ...	...	.....	.....	nom.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ld. ...	30,000	$10	$8	none	$8,960.93	30- 4-97	†5%	1- 7-97	$0.27	2.84	$9.50	6.94
Central Stores, Ld.	6,000	$20	$20	.....	§$19,088.54	28- 2-98	None	... .	...	.....	$10.00	7.30

* For half year. † For year. ‡ Interim dividend. ‖ Final dividend for business year. § A deficit. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest. (c) Insurance Fund. (d) Depreciation Fund. (e) Reserve against Exchange and Investment Fluctuations. (f) Bonus. (g) Assuming that they run for the full term. (h) On the 31st December last, there were only £1.10.0 per share paid up, this, with the further calls of £1.10.0 per share since paid, cover the deficit. (j) Cum the right to the new issue at par. (k) The Accounts are not published. (l) Interest paid to this date. For all Dollar shares the exchange is fixed at 73.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

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